

'Forward with confidence'

Bush sworn in, vows to spread liberty worldwide



President Bush takes the oath of office from Chief Justice William Rehnquist, right, with first lady Laura Bush and his twin daughters, Barbara and Jenna, at his side Thursday at the U.S. Capitol. In background are Speaker of the House Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., second from right, and Sen. Trent Lott, R-Miss., chairman of the congressional inaugural committee.

- Bush says U.S. freedom depends on freedom abroad **Pages 3, 4**
- Family, dignitaries surround president in inaugural images **Pages 4-5**
- Troops revel in opportunity to be part of 2nd-term ceremony **Page 6**

STARS & STRIPES

COMING
SOON

Scene on Sunday

Three cheers
for chocolate

Scene on Sunday

Jennifer Garner
is electrifyingDon't miss a
single issue.For home delivery,
call DSN 349-8437

STARS & STRIPES

Your Hometown Newspaper

TODAY IN STRIPES

Abby, Annie's Mailbox.....	28
American Roundup	20-21
Classified	29-30
Comics	26-28
Crossword	27
Faces	19
Horoscope	26
Letters	24
Opinion	24-25
Sports	31-40
TV listings	18
Weather	23
Your Money	22

News Tracker ... What's new with old news

States

O.J. Simpson's daughter: O.J. Simpson's 19-year-old daughter was arrested after she refused to stop yelling at officers in Miami who had been summoned because of a fight outside a basketball game involving her old prep school, police said.

Sydney Simpson was charged Saturday with resisting arrest without violence, punishable by up to a year in jail, and disorderly conduct, which carries a possible 60-day jail sentence.

Simpson yelled profanities at the officers called to Ransom Everglades School after a boys' varsity basketball game against Gulliver Prep, according to a Miami police report. While she was being taken into custody, she slapped another officer's hand, leading to the resisting arrest charge, the report said.

Oil-for-food scandal: An Iraqi-American businessman accused of skimming money from the United Nations oil-for-food program has pleaded guilty to being an illegal agent of Saddam Hussein's government.

Samir A. Vincent, 64, a naturalized U.S. citizen from Annandale, Va., is the first person to be charged in the Justice Department's investigation of the program. He entered his plea Tuesday in New York.

Vincent received the rights to some 9 million barrels of oil and cash payments from Saddam's government in return for lobbying U.S. and U.N. officials on issues such as weakening of economic sanctions, the admission of arms inspectors and the oil-for-food program itself, prosecutors said.

Illegal immigrants smuggling: A federal judge Wednesday granted a delay in the Houston trial of a New York man accused of driving and abandoning a tractor-trailer in the nation's deadliest human smuggling attempt.

Jury selection in the trial of Tyrone Williams was to begin Friday, but his attorney, Craig Washington, had sought a delay so he could appeal a ruling that allows prosecutors to withhold information on why Williams is the only one of 14 defendants facing the death penalty.

Prosecutors said they singled out Williams because he alone had the power to release the people packed in his trailer. The failed smuggling attempt resulted in the deaths of 19 illegal immigrants in May 2003.

Iranian-American accused: A businessman suspected of supporting Iran's nuclear missile program accused federal prosecutors Wednesday of trumping charges against him and ruining his reputation.

Mohammad Farahbakhsh, 34, an Iranian-born U.S. citizen, is being held in New Haven, Conn., on charges of illegally exporting temperature and pressure sensors to Iran. Prosecutors say he also did business with companies connected to the Iranian nuclear program. They plan to charge him with that next month.

Business

ImClone settlement: Sam Waksal, the imprisoned ImClone Systems Inc. founder at the center of an insider-trading scandal that ensnared Martha Stewart, and his father have agreed to pay a total of some \$5 million to resolve civil charges in the case, regulators announced Wednesday.

Sam and Jack Waksal neither admitted nor denied wrongdoing in the settlement.



Asian bird flu: Trinh Duc Ha removes from a truck Wednesday a chicken to sell at Hanoi's largest poultry market in Vietnam. Health experts are bracing for a repeat of last year's bird flu outbreak after six people died in Vietnam within three weeks and neighboring Thailand reported its first cases among poultry this year. Outbreaks among poultry have been reported nationwide in Vietnam, and health experts say the pattern looks similar to last year, when the virus spread rapidly just before the Lunar New Year holiday, or Tet.

with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Sam Waksal pleaded guilty in late 2002 to securities fraud for tipping his daughter, Aliza, to dump ImClone stock just before the Food and Drug Administration publicly announced it was refusing to accept the company's application to market the colon cancer drug Erbitux. He is serving a seven-year, three-month sentence at a federal prison in Pennsylvania.

Enron collapse: Enron Corp.'s top leaders will all be tried in Houston on criminal charges connected to the scandal-ridden company's 2001 collapse, a federal judge ruled Wednesday.

U.S. District Judge Sim Lake's decision denies claims from company founder Kenneth Lay, former chief executive officer Jeff Skilling and former top accountant Richard Causey that they couldn't get a fair trial on their home turf.

World

Dorm slaying in China: A 21-year-old man who broke into a Chinese high school dormitory and stabbed nine boys to death has been executed less than two months after the attack, the government announced Thursday.

Yan Yanning was put to death Tuesday in the central province of Henan, where he was convicted of attacking the boys on Nov. 25 in the city of Ruzhou, the official Xinhua News Agency said.

Afghan opium trade: Afghan authorities are determined to destroy the country's \$2.8 billion opium trade, but they must take care not to provoke unrest among farmers who depend on the crop, Afghanistan's new counter-narcotics minister said Thursday.

Habibullah Qaderi appealed for international aid to wean farmers off growing opium and help train counter-narcotics forces to stem the flood of cheap Afghan heroin onto world markets.

"To take away the livelihood of the farmers could be dangerous in some parts of Afghanistan, particularly in this period ahead

of elections," Qaderi told reporters during a visit to NATO headquarters in Belgium.

Canadian mad cow cases: Government officials are now tracing six cows shipped into the United States from the same Canadian herd as an animal with mad cow disease.

The infected dairy cow was born within one year of the others. An Agriculture Department spokesman said Wednesday that the agency is tracking their movements.

Beef imports to Japan: Japanese and U.S. officials are nearing a resolution to a 13-month ban on American beef imports to Japan that could soon have U.S. beef producers regaining limited access to a billion-dollar market, a U.S. agricultural official said Wednesday.

"We feel we have reached a mutual resolution for trade resumption ... and that that resolution is close at hand," Chas. Lambert, deputy under secretary for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's marketing and regulatory programs, told reporters in Tokyo.

Japan banned American beef imports in December 2003 after the discovery of the first U.S. case of mad cow disease. At the time, Japan was the most lucrative overseas market for American beef, with sales exceeding \$1.7 billion in 2003.

War on terrorism

Gitmo detainees: A federal judge threw out a lawsuit by foreign-born terror suspects challenging their detention in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, ruling that last year's landmark Supreme Court ruling did not provide them the legal basis to win their freedom.

U.S. District Judge Richard Leon ruled Wednesday that Congress had authorized the president to order the detention of "enemy combatants" for the duration of the war on terror.

The lawsuit by seven of the roughly 550 detainees being held at the U.S. Navy base failed to show valid legal grounds to overturn that power, Leon said. As a result, the proper place to contest their detainment is before military review boards, not federal courts.

Stories and photo from The Associated Press



IF YOU'RE UP... WE'RE OPEN

24-Hour convenience is as close as your phone

24-Hour toll-free Contact Center • 00800-4728-2000

Service
CREDIT UNIONwww.scscreditunion.org
24-Hour Contact Center
00800-4728-2000

NCUA

INAUGURATION

Bush takes oath for second term

Americans flood Capitol during 55th presidential inauguration

BY DEB RIECHMANN
AND DAVID ESPO
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — George W. Bush swore the presidential oath for a second term in turbulent times Thursday and issued a sweeping pledge to spread liberty and freedom "to the darkest corners of the world."

"Our country has accepted obligations that are difficult to fulfill and would be dishonorable to abandon," said the president, who led the nation to war in Iraq in a first term marked by terrorist attacks on the United States.

In a speech delivered before a vast throng of fellow Americans spilling away from the steps of the Capitol, Bush said he would place the nation on the side of the world's oppressed people. "All who live in tyranny and hopelessness can know: the United States will not ignore your oppression, or excuse your oppressors. When you stand for your liberty, we will stand with you."

Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist, 80, ailing with thyroid cancer and the subject of retirement speculation, administered the oath of office. The 58-year-old president placed one hand on a family Bible and raised the other as he recited an oath as old as the Republic.

The weather was cold; security was extraordinarily tight for the nation's 55th inauguration, the first since the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. Sharpshooters dressed in black scanned the vast crowd from rooftops and hundreds of police stood shoulder to shoulder along the route of the mid-afternoon inaugural parade.

Newly sworn in, Bush offered an implied rebuttal to critics of his foreign policy and the war in Iraq. "Some, I know, have questioned the global appeal of liberty," he said, "though this time in history, four decades defined by the swiftest advance of freedom ever seen, is an odd time for doubt."

"We go forward with complete confidence in the eventual triumph of freedom," he said in remarks that were short of all but the most glancing references to the dominant political issues of the day.

Instead, he packed the first speech of a new term with multiple references to freedom and liberty, references to God — and a reminder of Abraham Lincoln's long-ago admonition. "Those who deny freedom to others deserve it not for themselves; and, under the rule of a just God, cannot long retain it," he quoted the 16th president.

The spread of freedom and liberty were the oldest ideals of America, Bush said. "Now it is the urgent requirement of our nation's security, and the calling of our time."

Bush, his family and congressional leaders moved into the Capitol following the midday swearing in and speech, joining other members of the nation's political elite for lunch. "I'm looking forward to putting my heart and soul into this job for four more years," he said.

"We're ready to go to work," replied Sen. Trent Lott, R-Miss., chairman of the congressional inaugural committee. Eager to begin, the GOP-controlled Senate



Capitol Hill visitors and guests watch President Bush's inauguration Thursday in Washington.

was convening at mid-afternoon, with confirmation of the first of Bush's second-term Cabinet officers on the agenda.

The president awoke before dawn in the White House, then traveled a few blocks with his wife Laura and their twin daughters, Jenna and Barbara, to the traditional pre-inauguration prayer service.

A few hours later they journeyed 16 blocks along historic Pennsylvania Avenue to the Capitol, where Bush stood four years earlier to take the office for the first time.

Bush's victory made him the 16th president in American history to win a second term after a full first four years — an accomplishment denied his father in 1992. In the process, he led Republicans to larger majorities in the House and Senate, and has outlined a conservative second-term domestic agenda that includes major changes in Social Security and taxes.

But with the war a concern, he was beginning his new term with the lowest approval rating at that point of any recent two-term president — 49 percent in an Associated Press poll this month. Bush is the nation's 43rd president.

Vice President Dick Cheney took the oath for a second term moments before the president. House Speaker J. Dennis Hastert of Illinois swore him in.

For all the security precautions, officials reported no new information suggesting terror threats to the ceremony or the parade that was following.

Parade route garnished with both pomp, protests

BY LEO SHANE III
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Thursday's inaugural parade was a mixture of pomp and precaution, with protesters confined to small sections of the parade route and armed guards surrounding even the supporters.

Floats and performers from 46 states were represented in the procession. Military honorees included cadets from the Virginia Military Institute, a precision drill team from The Citadel in South Carolina and Purple Heart veterans from Maryland.

Petty Officer 1st Class John Caudle, 43, a chaplain's assistant at the National Naval Medical Center in nearby Bethesda, Md., navigated the city's partially closed subway system with his wife, Lori, to watch the festivities.

"He's our commander in chief, and I'm proud to serve under him," he said.

President Bush launched the parade with a review of troops lined up near the steps of the Capitol.

Among the first crowds to greet his motorcade were protesters, while a more friendly audience lined the streets closer to the end of the parade near the White House.

Lines at the checkpoints for designated protest areas moved slowly throughout the day, as hundreds waited their turn to go through metal detectors. Large banners were prohibited near the parade route, as were bottles or other containers that could be used as projectiles.

One of the protesters waiting in line, Juan Carlos Reyes, a former avionics technician in the U.S. Air Force, began shouting as his frustration mounted.

"What kind of coward do you support?" Reyes shouted, then led many in the group with the chant, "Let us in! Let us in!"

During the parade, pro-Bush partiers tried to drown out the protesters' chants, but rows of security officials lining the streets did not obscure the presidential motorcade from signs with insults like "Worst president ever" and "America is disgraced."

Farther up the parade route, supporters with tickets found it easier getting to their bleacher seats, which lined much of the president's 1.7-mile path.

Organizers said about 40,000 paid between \$15 and \$125 for those seats, but about 60,000 more were expected to cheer or jeer the president along the route.

Editor Pat Dickson contributed to this article.



President Bush and first lady Laura Bush depart the North Portico of the White House for the limousine ride to the Capitol on Thursday with their daughters Barbara, far left, and Jenna.

INAUGURATION



AP photos

Above: Former President George H.W. Bush, right, looks up with his wife, Barbara, and granddaughters Barbara, back left, and Jenna as they walk through the Rotunda in the Capitol in Washington on Thursday. Right: President Bush walks through the Rotunda on his way to the podium at the inauguration ceremony.



Bush speech: U.S. will fight tyranny

The Associated Press

Some highlights of President Bush's inauguration speech:

At this second gathering, our duties are defined not by the words I use, but by the history we have seen together. For a half century, America defended our own freedom by standing watch on distant borders. After the shipwreck of communism came years of relative quiet, years of repose, years of sabbatical — and then there came a day of fire....

We are led, by events and common sense, to one conclusion: The survival of liberty in our land increasingly depends on the success of liberty in other lands. The best hope for peace in our world is the expansion of freedom in all the world....

So it is the policy of the United States to seek and support the growth of democratic movements and institutions in every nation and culture, with the ultimate goal of ending tyranny in our world....

The great objective of ending tyranny is the concentrated work of generations. The difficulty of the task is excuse for avoiding it. America's influence is not unlimited, but fortunately for the oppressed, America's

**Go to www.stripes.com
for the full speech
and more coverage**

influence is considerable, and we will use it confidently in freedom's cause....

My most solemn duty is to protect this nation and its people against further attacks and emerging threats. Some have unwisely chosen to test America's resolve, and have found it firm....

We will persistently clarify the choice before every ruler and every nation: The moral choice between oppression, which is always wrong, and freedom, which is eternally right. America will not pretend that jailed dissidents prefer their chains, or that women welcome humiliation and servitude, or that any human being aspires to live at the mercy of bullies....

From all of you, I have asked patience in the hard task of securing America, which you have granted in good measure. Our country has accepted obligations that are difficult to fulfill, and would be dishonorable to abandon.

Yet because we have acted in the great liberating tradition of this nation, tens of millions have achieved their freedom....

In America's ideal of freedom, citizens find the dignity and security of economic independence, instead of laboring on the edge of subsistence. This is the broader definition of liberty that motivated the Homestead Act, the Social Security Act, and the GI Bill of Rights. And now we will extend this vision by reforming great institutions to serve the needs of our time. To give every American a stake in the promise and future of our country, we will bring the highest standards to our schools, and build an ownership society. We will widen the ownership of homes and businesses, retirement savings and health insurance — preparing our people for the challenges of life in a free society....

We go forward with complete confidence in the eventual triumph of freedom. Not because history runs on the wheels of inevitability; it is human choices that move events. Not because we consider ourselves a chosen nation; God moves and chooses as He wills. We have confidence because freedom is the permanent hope of mankind, the hunger in dark places, the longing of the soul.



President Bush delivers his inaugural address at the Capitol.



Clockwise from above: President Bush's daughters Barbara, left, and Jenna look on as President Bush kisses first lady Laura Bush on Capitol Hill. Bush and Vice President Cheney wave to the crowd on Capitol Hill. Former Vice President Dan Quayle, left, talks with Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y., on Capitol Hill before Bush's inaugural address.



INAUGURATION



MORGAN LOOSLI/Stars and Stripes

Protesters and ticketed parade attendees fill 7th Street N.W. in Washington as they wait to pass through the security checkpoint.



MORGAN LOOSLI/Stars and Stripes

Matthew Ensor, left, and Tom Wingate, from Maryland, hold signs protesting President Bush and the war while they stand in line to get into the inaugural parade area.



AP photos

Above: Former President Jimmy Carter and Roslyn Carter arrive for the swearing-in ceremony of President Bush at the U.S. Capitol.

Below: Former presidential candidate Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., waves as he arrives at the ceremony.



Bush hopes to avoid 'second-term curse'

By DAVID S. BRODER

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — As he takes the oath of office for the second time Thursday, President Bush will confront major challenges, including an unfinished war in Iraq and a looming budget deficit and determined political opposition at home. And he also must overcome what some historians refer to as the "second-term curse" — the pattern of meager progress and increasing frustration for almost every re-elected president in modern times.

Bush has armed himself for these struggles in the best way he knows how, by rolling up a popular-vote majority and spurring his party to gains in Congress. He told The Washington Post in an interview last Friday: "I'm excited about the second term. I worked hard to get there and campaigned on some specific issues that I'm looking forward to working with the Congress on."

But if the portraits of former second-term presidents could speak to Bush, almost all of them would say, "Beware what may befall you."

From Woodrow Wilson, who suffered a stroke and saw his dream of the League of Nations rejected to Bill Clinton, who had to survive an impeachment effort, the pattern has not been happy.

As if to ward off a similar fate, Bush has set forth a highly ambitious agenda for the next four years. Karl Rove, the architect of both of Bush's White House victories, said in an interview that, from his first conversations with the president about the 2004 campaign, it was clear that Bush's instinct was to set forth big goals and build the political momentum needed to reach them.

The election provided Bush with a strong start in meeting the challenges of his second term. He improved on his 2000 showing, when he trailed Al Gore in the popular vote, and in November he became the first Republican president in 104 years to be reelected with majorities in both the House and the Senate.

Since Election Day, he has substantially revised his Cabinet, naming new people to run nine of the 15 departments. He has shifted some assignments on the senior White House staff, relieving aides who had exhausted themselves in the first term.

Bush will need all the momentum he can muster, because the challenges are formidable. As the war in Iraq heads into its third year, the casualties continue and the outcome remains in doubt. It has been costly in lives and treasure, and it has strained the capacity of the U.S. military to meet other global commitments.

Meanwhile, here at home, the bill is coming due on the huge budget deficits of his first term,

even as demands rise for more government spending on health care, education and transportation. Energy policy — long stalemated by regional and environmental issues — is in gridlock.

As if all that were not enough, the president has placed at the top of his agenda the revision of four basic American institutions,

Analysis

seeking fundamental changes that would alter the lives of virtually every American.

■ He wants to change the Social Security system, the 70-year-old prop for the retirement planning of all workers and their families, shifting it from a fixed monthly government stipend to a payout that would depend on people's skills in gauging the financial markets.

■ He wants to intervene to slow the flood of lawsuits filed in civil cases, limit the awards for damages and reduce the incentives for lawyers to file such suits.

■ He wants to revise American high schools, stiffening the requirements for graduation, even as grade schools nationwide still struggle to meet the requirements he put on them in his first term.

■ And he wants to remake the judicial branch of government with the appointment of more "strict constructionist" judges, including in all likelihood one or more new justices who could shift the balance on the Supreme Court.

Every new presidential term begins on a note of hope, and this one is no different — even though Bush is, by some measures, in a shakier political position than many of his predecessors.

A Washington Post-ABC News poll completed Sunday placed Bush's job approval at 52 percent, with 46 percent saying they disapproved. By comparison, Clinton's approval-disapproval scores were 60 to 34 percent in January 1997, and Ronald Reagan's were 68 to 28 percent in January 1985.

Yet both those presidents joined the list of chief executives who saw things go sharply downhill after their first terms. Harry S. Truman and Lyndon B. Johnson, who enjoyed high popularity after filling out terms for predecessors who died in office, were so weak politically that they chose not to seek reelection.

Richard M. Nixon was forced to resign over the Watergate scandal and the coverup of that "third-rate burglary." Dwight D. Eisenhower and Reagan were forced by illnesses and foreign policy reversals — the U-2 affair for the former, the Iran-contra scandal for the latter.

Only Reagan retained enough popularity at the end of his term to see a successor of the same party. Vice President George H.W. Bush, elected for the others, retirement came amid loud rumblings of political dissent and disillusionment.

INAUGURATION

Troops see inauguration as special event

BY PATRICK DICKSON

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The 55th Inaugural festivities in Washington were special for everyone — but none more than the U.S. military. "I think it's wonderful," said Sgt. James Loomis, 21, of Loomis, Va. "It'll probably be the only time that I can be in uniform in our nation's capital."



Dineen

Loomis, from the 2nd Battalion, 116th Regiment of the Virginia National Guard, did not mind working under the Military District of Washington's command for a few days. "They called the governor, and here we are. It's wonderful."

Staff Sgt. Kristopher Provencher, of the 621st Air Mobility Squadron at McGuire Air Force Base, N.J., put in for the duty. "I like it," the Manchester, N.H., native said. "It's really different to see how it comes together, with 150,000 people showing up. It's kind of amazing."

Provencher, 29, wasn't bothered by the protesters shouting as they walked past. "They don't bother us [military

people]," he said.

Working security alongside him was Christopher Dineen, on temporary duty from Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, for about a month.

"I wanted this. I had to go through two applications processes — I failed the first time. This is a once-in-a-lifetime thing."

Was he bothered by the bitter cold, coming from Hawaii? "Oh, no. I was [stationed] at Mainstrom [Air Force Base] in Montana for 11 years. This is great!"

Thousands of military people had been tasked with security for the parade and other inauguration events, but some came just to be part of the party, or to show their colors.

Geoffrey Hoyt, 30, of Dansville, N.Y., came with his family to support the president.

"Very much so," he said. He rode Metro to the events, where, he said, he saw "all kinds of protesters" riding in, especially vocal anti-war protesters.

"They were dressed like President Bush and Vice President



Hoyt

Cheney, and the guy dressed like the president had the world under his arm and he was drinking a can of oil."

Hoyt, of the 113th Communications Squadron in Washington, an Air National Guard unit, was justified by protesters as he talked. "Quite a mixed crowd," he mused.

Also there just to support the president, Hoyt had words of encouragement for those deployed, as well.

"Good luck and — can I swear? Good luck and kick ass!"

Nearby, Zeqir "Ziggy" Berisha, a native of Kosovo and now a citizen with two sons in the U.S. Army and two in the Marines, waved the flag and shouted support for Bush.

"This nation underneath God is best on Earth!"

Asked about the protesters, he shrugged them off.

"Disagree is good! I disagree with my wife 35 years! Disagree is OK."

Berisha spoke of how different it was when he was living in Yugoslavia under Josip Broz Tito.

"I used to be shot people for speaking against them. He shot two of my friends."

Berisha is a little more reserved about free speech when it comes to his boys.

"I tell them, you speak against this country, you speak against me!"

Patrick Dickson at dicksonp@stripes.osd.mil



MORGAN LOOMIS/Stars and Stripes

Zeqir "Ziggy" Berisha, 62, a native of Kosovo and now a U.S. citizen, shows his support for President Bush before the inaugural parade. Now living in Waterbury, Conn., Ziggy called the celebration "the best! I was here four years ago, and I'm here again. It's like I'm born again!"

Protesters hit streets for Bush ceremony

BY JEANNINE AVERSA

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Anti-war protesters, including some who carried coffin-like cardboard boxes to signify the deaths of U.S. troops in Iraq, descended on the capital Thursday. Some of their chants could be heard as President Bush delivered his inaugural address.

The chants came toward the end of Bush's speech, and the president continued his address without interruption or any sign that he heard them.

On Capitol Hill, some protesters were briefly detained by police, and then released after Bush finished speaking, said Andrea Buffa, spokeswoman for CodePink Women for Peace, a social justice peace movement.

Earlier in the day, about 500 people rallied in a park several miles from the Capitol.

"Worst President Ever" and "Four more years: God HELP America" were on some of the signs.

"It's important to show that when Bush's second inauguration



Juan Carlos Reyes of Lake Tahoe, Calif., carries protest signs labeling President Bush and Vice President Cheney as "warmongers" during inauguration Day protests in downtown Washington.

goes into the record books, there was healthy dissent," said Jared Maslin, 19 of Hanover, N.H.

Aldan Delgado, 23, of Sarasota, Fla., returned to the United States in April after his military service. He said he was a mechanic at Abu Ghraib prison near Baghdad, which gained notoriety as a place of torture during Saddam Hussein's rule and was the scene of alleged prisoner abuse by U.S. troops.

"What I experienced in Iraq fills me with remorse," Delgado told the crowd of protesters. "If we are going to preserve our nation at all, we need to criticize what we did wrong and we have to criticize ourselves," he said.

Several police cars lined the perimeter of the park, but the event remained peaceful.

At one demonstration, supporters of the president engaged in a shouting and shoving match with some opponents of the war. An anti-war group called the Rhythm Workers Union banded on steel drums and danced in mudaked boots.

Elsewhere in the city, more than 300 anti-war protesters organized by CodePink sported beautiful pageant style banners with "resist!" scrawled in black.

Some protesters carried signs advocating abortion rights. Others urged people to donate money to tsunami relief efforts. Some took issue with Bush's environmental and economic policies.

Associated Press writers Genaro Armas and David Quaid contributed to this report.

Cheney: Presidency has been restored to power

BY BOB WOODWARD

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Vice President Dick Cheney said in an interview that the proper power of the presidency has finally been restored after being diminished in the wake of the Vietnam War and Watergate, and that President Bush contributed to the process by not allowing his narrow victory in the 2000 presidential race to inhibit him during his first term.

Even after we went through all of that, he never wanted to allow, correctly, the closeness of our election to in any way diminish the power of the presidency, lead him to make a decision that he needed to somehow trim his sails, and be less than a fully authorized, if you will, commander in chief, leader of our government, president of the United States," Cheney said in a December interview that was to be broadcast Thursday night on "Inside the Presidency," a documentary on the History Channel.

Bush's assertiveness in the early days of his presidency, Cheney said, meant that he was able to respond decisively after the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001. "Faced with a whole new threat, set of challenges, you needed a strong, decisive president, and that's exactly what we had," Cheney said.

Cheney said that the "low point" of presidential power occurred at the beginning of Gerald Ford's

presidency and that "over time" it has been restored, despite such challenges as the Iran-Contra investigation under President Ronald Reagan, which Cheney characterized as an attempt ... to try to "criminalize a policy difference" between the president and Congress.

"I think, in fact, there has been over time a restoration, if you will, of the power and authority of the president," Cheney said.

Cheney was especially critical of anything that would undermine the president's powers as commander in chief. He said he agrees with many who believe the War Powers Act, which was passed in 1973 and attempts to restrict the president's use of military force, is "unconstitutional."

"That made a change in the institutional arrangements that I don't think is healthy," the vice president said. "I don't think you should restrict the president's authority to deploy military forces because of the Vietnam experience."

History has been cheated after Watergate, he said. "The investigations that have occurred over the years, the role of the special prosecutors and so forth have dried up a major source for history."

"I don't keep a diary," he said, adding that he also does not use e-mail. "And I don't write letters."

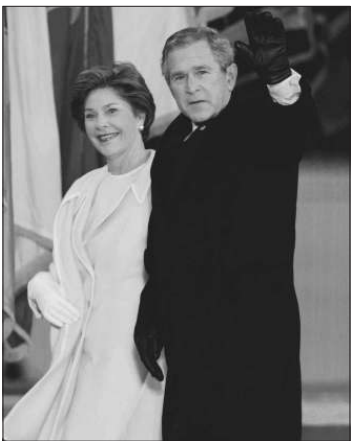
So where is the record?

"It's all right up here," he said, pointing to his head. "And I suppose that'll fade over the years."

INAUGURATION



Above: Fireworks light up the Wednesday evening sky near the Washington Monument toward the end of the Celebration of Freedom Concert on the Ellipse. Right: President Bush and first lady Laura Bush wave to the crowd during the concert, part of the inaugural celebrations this week in the nation's capital.



Concert celebrates freedom

Yee-haw!

Texans well shod for two-stepping at 'Boots' ball

By LIZ SIDOTT
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — First lady Laura Bush chose high fashion for the Black Tie and Boots Ball, sporting a raspberry silk taffeta Carolina Herrera ensemble with a Western touch — a full skirt and fitted bodice resembling a button-down shirt.

But for many of President Bush's Texas supporters, the ball was more about the boots — and less about the couture.

The Texas State Society's gala Wednesday was arguably the most unconventional bash of inaugural week — at least in fashion terms.

It's the only party in town where the 10,000 guests are not just encouraged but expected to pair down-home duds like Stetson hats and Tony Lamas kicks with tuxedos and evening gowns.

Sarah Furlow, 19, needed just the right footwear — in color and style — to go with the brown, low-cut bead-and-lace slip dress from Cache that she already had hanging in her closet.

The Texas Tech University fashion design major found just the pair — on the feet of a friend while they were at the movies.

"I asked her if I could borrow them and she took them off in the movie theater and walked out barefoot," Furlow said, still laughing at the episode.

Lorian Sessions of San Antonio donned a new pair of black kangaroo boots, decorated with a white star and embroidery, with an aqua-colored mink wrap she bought on sale at Saks. The



President Bush looks toward the balcony Wednesday as his daughter Jenna flashes the University of Texas "Longhorn" sign at the Texas State Society's Black Tie and Boots Ball, the week's first inaugural gala. Looking over the president's shoulder is Jenna's twin, Barbara.

35-year-old wore it over a simple black floor-length gown.

"It was \$35. I bought it 10 years ago two sizes too big. I figured I'd either let it out or take it in when I finally wore it."

"I had to take it in, thank God! I refused to put a thousand-dollar dress with a pair of boots!" she said.

Her husband, Mark, said the special part of his ensemble was not the custom-made tuxedo he got from a tailor in Texas. It was his lizard skin boots.

Sue Brannon, chairwoman of the Midland County Republican Party in Texas, took her boots with her when she shopped for her clingy and sparkly red floor-length frock.

"These are red snake. My husband bought them for me 15 years ago. These are my dancing boots. They're Tony Lamas. I love them so much," said Brannon, 67, who also added to her outfit a rhinestone tiara, a matching brooch that spelled Bush and the Texas flag on a necklace.

Anti-Bush events planned in Europe

By WILLIAM J. KOLE
The Associated Press

VIENNA, Austria — In Geneva, they'll read patriotic poetry.

In Vienna, they'll drown their sorrows and plot their revenge.

In London, they'll stage a candlelight protest outside the U.S. Embassy.

Across Europe, a land none too friendly to George W. Bush, locals and American expatriates united in their opposition to the U.S. president were marking his inauguration Thursday with some unabashed Bush-bashing.

The Austria chapter of Democrats Abroad, which scrapped plans for a black-tie "un-augural ball" because of the tsunami in southern Asia, said its members instead would gather at a traditional Vienna wine bar "to scheme, plot and plan the retaking of our country."

In Britain, anti-Bush demonstrators planned a candlelight protest outside the American embassy in central London, staged by the Stop the War Coalition, which organized mass rallies opposing the Iraq conflict in 2003.

Rather than watch the Washington inauguration on television, the U.K. contingent of Democrats Abroad organized a talk by liberal author Ron Suskind, whose book "The Price of Loyalty" — an insider account of Paul O'Neill's time as U.S. treasury secretary — paints an unflattering portrait of Bush.

Bush's re-election was widely seen as negative for global peace and security in 16 of 21 countries polled in a BBC World Service survey released on the eve of the inauguration. On average across all the countries, 58 percent called his re-election a negative development; only 26 percent described it as positive.

Protesters in Germany got an early start with a candlelight vigil Wednesday evening in front of Berlin's landmark Brandenburg Gate, where they held a dozen American flags upside down to symbolize an SOS distress call.

"We're Americans who vote, and who have a voice in U.S. policy," said Elsa Rassbach of American Voices Abroad, which organized the event in the country that had overwhelmingly backed Democrat John Kerry for president.

"I think there's alarm here, so I think many Germans would be happy that many U.S. citizens don't agree with Bush," she said.

Another group, Vote 44, which formed in Europe to promote a 44th president to replace Bush, planned a protest rally at the Brandenburg Gate for Thursday under the slogan: "You've Got a Voice."

"We call on all people worldwide who are against the policies of the Bush government to take part in the demonstration or organize one in their own cities," the organization said in a statement.

In southwestern France, Democrats Abroad screened a film called "Bush's Brain" and called on its supporters in Paris to dress in Kerry blue and gather at a trendy bar for "a dialogue of truth about the Bush agenda and its global effect on all of us."

About 200 anti-Bush activists planned to watch the inauguration on TV while hearing from Ukrainian youths who worked to elect opposition reformist Viktor Yushchenko as president. Overall, though, the emphasis was on "celebrating being Democrats, not 'we hate Bush,'" said Sheila Sarem of Young Democrats Abroad France.

'The best journey I ever had'

Germans, Americans unite to remember post-World War II Operation Kinderlift

By RUSS RIZZO

Stars and Stripes

BERLIN — Dorit Ziegler saw the world in four weeks.

She was 13 years old and living in poverty-stricken West Berlin after World War II had destroyed and divided her country. Her father was killed in Czechoslovakia while fighting for the German army. And now she, her mother and her three brothers and sisters slept two-to-a-bed in her grandmother's apartment, living mostly off of *mehl*, or flour, and water.

That's when an American military family took Ziegler into its Bithurg home and treated her to

the spoils of American life: plentiful food, marshmallows and blue jeans, to name a few.

Bithurg was smaller than Berlin, but to her 13-year-old eyes, it was the world, she said.

Ziegler and six others who took part in Operation Kinderlift as children from 1953 to 1957 gathered at the Allied Museum in Berlin on Wednesday for the opening of an exhibit commemorating the program. A Red Cross nurse and German journalist who dreamed up the program also attended.

In five years, the U.S. Air Force flew more than 12,000 children from West Berlin to homes in West Germany to get nourishment and experience a life outside of the poverty in Berlin, according to the museum.

Most of the children were refugees from East Germany. They spent the summer with American military families, German families and summer camps in West Germany.

At the exhibit opening, Ziegler, now 61, sought out U.S. Air Force Brig. Gen. Jay Lindell to thank the U.S. military for supporting the historic program. Lindell is the U.S. Air Force in Europe director of logistics.

Ziegler excitedly pointed at a black-and-white photograph hanging on a museum wall. In the photo, a young girl with Ziegler's puffed cheeks and button eyes sits between two girls.

"That's me," Ziegler said, smiling. "I look so American."



PHOTOS BY RUSS RIZZO/Stars and Stripes

Dorit Ziegler looks at a photograph of herself, taken when she was 13 years old, and daughters of an American couple who took her in during the summer of 1956.

The girls in the photo with their arms around Ziegler are daughters of the couple who took her in. They all wear white blouses, blue jeans and wide smiles. The picture draws a stark contrast from other photos that hang in the museum, of refugee children with tattered clothes, dirtied faces and sullen expressions.

Ziegler said the program had a lasting effect on her.

"I have a special mind for the American people," said Ziegler, who worked in a Berlin travel agency before retiring. "I like to help people because they helped me and my family."

Lindell was greeted with similar excitement by the other men and women who experienced a taste of a better life during Operation

Kinderlift, originally called *Kinderfluchtbrücke*, or "children's airlift."

"You could tell in the way they greeted you just how appreciative they were," said Lindell.

Harry Heyer holds fond memories of his time with an American family at Ramstein Air Base. The Air Force pilots let him into the cockpit and gave him thick, pink sticks of chewing gum. He learned to blow big bubbles that would explode, leaving his face covered in gum.

Heyer's father had been taken as a political prisoner in their East Germany town, so he, his mother and his two older brothers fled to West Berlin as refugees. Eight people shared a three-room apartment and got by with very little money, he said.

When Heyer stepped off the plane after his visit with Americans, his mother did not recognize him, he said. She was thrown off by his new clothes, short haircut — and the pink gum that covered his face.

"That was the best journey I ever had," said Heyer, who now works as a regional manager for GlaxoSmithKline, one of the largest pharmaceutical companies in the world.

Heyer's daughter recently received her master's degree in international law from Golden Gate University in San Francisco — an indirect result of the Air Force program, Heyer said.

"I gave it forward to my kids."

E-mail Russ Rizzo at: rizzo@mail.strips.esd.mil



U.S. Air Force Brig. Gen. Jay Lindell speaks at the opening of an exhibit commemorating Operation Kinderlift.

Rota Marines fight terror, boredom

By BEN MURRAY

Stars and Stripes

NAVAL STATION ROTA, Spain — The Marines at Naval Station Rota are, as a general rule, a physical group. They spend time hacking at each other in martial arts exercises, building up fortified machine-gun positions and holding mock firefights as they train for the war on terror.

But one of the most difficult battles the Marines face is often the fight against boredom, a struggle typified by long hours of tedium at an isolated post or droning repetition at a busy security gate.

"Let's face it, this stuff can be pretty boring," said 1st Lt. Lance Day of the Rota-based Marine Corps Security Force Company Europe's 1st Platoon.

This week, Day spent several days leading his leathernecks through a variety of training exercises designed to sharpen the local Marines' guard skills and drill them in basic infantry tactics. The exercises were held at a fenced-in pair of unused buildings.

Fighting complacency, as the company's executive officer Capt. Mark Zarnecki puts it, is important for the security force, which plays a distinct role for the U.S. military.

The company stationed at this base in southern Spain has three main missions: to provide on-board security for ships passing through the Strait of Gibraltar, to conduct what Zarnecki called "ran-

dom anti-terror measures" at European bases and to augment security forces at nearby Navy bases. A portion of their site security duties may also include guarding embassies throughout Europe and beyond, when threats to American diplomatic outposts arise, he said.

"It's a job, he said, that may sound dynamic but often has the Marines standing in one place, watching stuff."

Many times, "there's nothing sexy, nothing high-speed about it," he said. Which is exactly why the Marines drill it.

And it's not all boring, Day said. A major part of the regimen, held for several days at a time every few months, is focused on honing the Marines' basic infantry skills, including kinetic hand-to-hand combat workouts and intense house-clearing exercises using low-velocity rounds tipped with paint cartridges.

Lance Cpl. Chris Moritt and Lance Cpl. Mitch Rowley, manning a machine gun at the training area's vehicle processing station, agreed that it wasn't easy to keep their minds fresh hour after hour, but that the training was necessary.

"Being out here for long periods of time can be hard," Moritt said.

But guarding installations against terror threats outside the gates of Rota, Rowley added, "is exactly what we do."

"It's good training, for all intents and purposes."

E-mail Ben Murray at: murray@mail.strips.esd.mil



BEN MURRAY/Stars and Stripes

A trio of Marines rush into a building in a high-speed exercise to clear the area of armed defenders, part of an extended training session under way at Naval Station Rota, Spain.

EUROLENS CONTACT LENSES	EVERYDAY LOW PRICES FROM EUROLENS CONTACT LENSES!	
	Order any four items from Eurolens and receive a 10% discount	
	Contact lenses by mail—FREE shipping to European addresses	
	<p>Germany 0800 1822593 UK 0800 897275 Italy 800 015480</p> <p>Holland 0800 0221447 Spain 9009 93967 Belgium 0800 73195</p>	
www.eurolenscontactlenses.com		

Get connected...

With Europe's finest automobiles!

Pentagon Car Sales

...GERMANY

KAISERSLAUTERN

Kaiserstrasse 1
67661 Kaiserslautern
Tel: 0631 351 900

HEIDELBERG

Hebelstrasse 3
69115 Heidelberg
Tel: 06221 144 911

MANNHEIM

Waldeckweg 3
68309 Mannheim
Tel: 0621 724 6901

WIESBADEN / MAINZ

Ludwig-Walker-Str. 14
55252 Mainz-Kastel
Tel: 06134 567 800

...ITALY

AVIANO

Via Pordenone 48D
Aviano (PN) 33081
Tel: 0434 676 613/4

VICENZA

Viale Della Pace 2548
Vicenza (VI) 36100
Tel: 0444 305 888

NAPLES

Via Eduardo Scarfoglio, 7/I
80125 Naples
Tel: 081 762 3868

SIGONELLA

c/o Hotel Sigonella Inn
Suite 101/102 opposite NAS 1
95040 Motta S. Anastasia (CT)
Tel: 095 713 0410

LA MADDALENA

Piazza Bambin Gesù 11
07024 La Maddalena (SS)
Tel: 0789 723 026

...SPAIN

ROTA

Plaza Del Triunfo 6
11520 Rota (Cadiz)
Tel: 956 841 678

Pentagon Car Sales offer thousands of dollars in savings for the US military community stationed overseas...

- Premium European US Spec Automobiles
- Premium European US Spec Motorcycles
- Tax-Free Factory Direct Pricing
- Overseas & Stateside Delivery Programs
- Easy To Use Internet Ordering Service
- Serving The US Military Since 1984
- American Owned & Operated



Come visit a Pentagon Car Sales showroom near you!

Pentagon Car Sales

Drive Into Your Dreams

... be connected!

www.PentagonCarSales.com

Sales@PentagonCarSales.com

Bamberg GIs return to hero's welcome

BY RICK EMERT

Stars and Stripes

BAMBERG, Germany — Bamberg's Chapel Family Life Center could easily have been mistaken for the waiting room of a glamour portrait studio Wednesday evening as families waited for their soldiers to return home from a year in Iraq.

By the time the last of the 16 returning soldiers had entered the room and taken their place in formation, the makeup was washed away by tears as family members bounced in their seats and hugged each other.

Only a short ceremony kept them from touching that family member — standing just a few feet away — who had been so far out of reach for the past year.



The soldiers, from the 1st Battalion, 6th Field Artillery Regiment and 82nd Engineer Battalion, got a hero's welcome from their loved ones and from dozens of community members who came to show their support for the returning troops.

"It was great. It's always a good experience to see our soldiers coming back," said Capt. Jon Drake, rear detachment commander for the 82nd Engineer Battalion.

The 1-6 Field Artillery and 82nd Engineer soldiers were based at Forward Operating Base Gabe in Basgouba, Iraq. The bulk of their soldiers are expected to return home in February or March.

Sgt. 1st Class Jack Larson, from 1-6 Field Artillery, said the first order of business was finally getting out of his desert camouflage uniform.

"Then I'm going to relax and eat dinner with my family," he said.

His wife, Rachelle Larson, had started the special dinner earlier that morning.

"I found out at 8:30 [a.m.] that he was going to be on the plane," she said. "I started bawling then."

Later that morning, she got a call that there was a mistake, and her husband wouldn't be back on Wednesday. An-



PHOTOS BY RICK EMERT/Stars and Stripes

Above: Some soldiers from 1st Battalion, 6th Field Artillery Regiment and 82nd Engineer Battalion look for their families Wednesday as they enter the Chapel Family Life Center on Warner Barracks in Bamberg, Germany. About 16 soldiers from the two units returned home from Iraq to cheers and applause from their families and community members who turned out to greet them. **Below left:** The Larson family says Wednesday after reuniting with Sgt. 1st Class Jack Larson, 1st Battalion, 6th Field Artillery Regiment. From left: Kayla, wife Rachelle, Larson, Cheyanne and Tristin.

other call in the afternoon confirmed that he was, in fact, on the plane and would be home Wednesday evening.

Moments before the soldiers were expected to return, Rachelle Larson had forgotten all about the whirlwind day of ups and downs.

"I'm really excited," she said. "It's been a very stressful year. I'm ready to have my husband home."

Her friend, Keanda Bagwell, whose husband, Staff Sgt. Rashawn Bagwell, was coming in on the same flight, said it was a relief to know the deployment was coming to an end for this handful of soldiers.

"Now I know what it feels like to be a single parent," Keanda Bagwell said.

The two wives said they got through the separation by pouring themselves into their work and leaning on each other when the separation became unbearable.

"Friday night was survivor's night at Rachelle's house," Rachelle Larson said about her get-togethers.

She hosted other spouses of deployed soldiers for a night of movies and friendship during the deployment.

"Friends, friendship really helped us keep it together," Bagwell said.

E-mail Rick Emert at emert@mill.strips.com

Free respite child care offered to troops

BY LISA BURGESS

Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — When a New Jersey Air National Guard member needed someone to take care of his newborn daughter one morning last May while the child's mother was at a doctor's appointment, Judy Novak stepped up to the plate — for free. Novak, a licensed child care provider who lives in Toms River, N.J., was helping the reservist as part of Operation Child Care, a nationwide program to offer members of the reserve and National Guard components some respite from child care while they are home from Iraq or Afghanistan on R&R (rest and recuperation) or emergency leave.

The National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies in Washington, D.C., launched Operation Child Care in May.

The organization, which is a national network of more than 850 child care resource and referral centers located in every state, is partnering in the program with the National Association of Family Child Care, the National Child Care Association, the National Cooperative Extension System, the National 4-H Program, and the

Child Care Bureau, which falls under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Operation Child Care has 6,000 volunteers standing ready to participate, according to DeVere Kutscher, a spokesman for the NAC-CRRA.

Bright Horizons Family Solutions and KinderCare Learning Centers — chain operations that include thousands of their child care centers across the country — are also participating.

Volunteers must commit to a minimum of four hours of free care, with the maximum "depending on the availability of the [individual] provider," Kutscher said in a Wednesday telephone interview.

"Some volunteers have offered up to 70 hours" of their time to the program, he said.

The volunteers must be certified and licensed by their resident states — a process that depends on each individual state's own rules.

But beyond those requirements, Operation Child Care's sponsors are trying "to leave [the program] as open as possible, and not put too many restrictions on it," Kutscher said. "We want to encourage people to use the program."

How to use Operation Child Care

Here's information on how to use Operation Child Care:

■ Who is eligible? Any military reservist who is coming home to the United States for R&R (rest and recuperation) or emergency leave. You will need to show your orders to your provider.

■ Who do I contact? Call the Operation Child Care hot line at (800) 424-2246, or go to www.childcareaware.org/en/operationchildcare/requestec.html and fill out the request form. More information on the program can also be found at www.childcareaware.org/en/operationchildcare.

■ Then what happens? The local Child Care Resource and Referral Agency in their home area will contact eligible reservists. Some child care agencies will help make the connection between volunteers and users of the program; others will offer a list of phone numbers and addresses of the volunteer providers in their area. Users will also get a list of questions to ask potential child care volunteers.

■ How do I know these child care volunteers are

qualified? Only legally operating, licensed, certified child care providers may volunteer for the program. Each state has its own requirements for licensing.

■ How much time will I get? Volunteers must offer a minimum of four hours, but there is no maximum. Reservists should discuss this when they contact their chosen volunteer provider to set up the child care appointment.

■ What should I ask potential providers? Ask for references and contact information of parents of children that they currently or previously cared for; whether your child will be participating in planned activities while in care; and what your preferences are (e.g., no television, etc.). You should also ask if food will be provided for your child, or if you will need to provide the food if there will be outside activities.

For a full list of issues to consider before you call, go to www.childcareaware.org/en/operationchildcare. Reservists will also be offered suggestions when they contact the Operation Child Care hot line.

Because Operation Child Care is so localized, the national association has yet to gather data on how many reservists have used it, Kutscher said.

And, notably, however, "we've seen some really nice stories" coming from different states, such as Novak's experience, he

said.

Novak said she heard about the Operation Child Care when her Ocean County, N.J., Children's Home Society contacted her by mail, asking for volunteers.

Although she already spent more than her required four hours caring for the reservist's

newborn, Novak said in a Wednesday telephone interview she's ready and waiting to do it again.

"Sometimes if you feel you can do a little something in a circumstance in that, you want to do it," she said.

E-mail Lisa Burgess at burgess@mill.strips.com

5 defendants in Camp Darby drug case convicted

BY KENT HARRIS
Stars and Stripes

Five members of an Italy-based munitions squadron have been found guilty of cocaine use in a series of courts-martial.

The airmen were all assigned to the 712th Munitions Squadron at Camp Darby. Their courts-martial were held in December, according to base officials.

Airman 1st Class Sy Holsinger was found guilty of diverse cocaine use and fraudulent enlistment. He was sentenced to five months' confinement, \$795 a month lost pay during confinement, reduction to E-1 and a bad-conduct discharge.

Airman 1st Class Dean Foderaro was found guilty of diverse cocaine use. He was found not guilty of wrongful Percoet use. He was sentenced to 100 days' confinement, reduction in rank to E-1 and a bad-conduct discharge.

Airman 1st Class Alan Freed was found guilty of diverse cocaine use, diverse Ecstasy and marijuana while on leave in the States. He was found not guilty of wrongful Loritab use and conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline. He was sentenced to 11 months' confinement, reduction in rank to E-1 and a bad-conduct discharge.

charge.

Senior Airman Cory Gerrick was found guilty of diverse cocaine use and cocaine distribution. He was sentenced to 18 months' confinement, reduction in rank to E-1 and a bad-conduct discharge.

Senior Airman Johnny McCarthan was found guilty of cocaine use. He was found not guilty of marijuana use and conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline. He was given a reprimand, a reduction in rank to E-1, five months' confinement, forfeiture of \$250 a month in pay while confined and two months of hard labor at Camp Darby.

A sixth airman charged in the case was acquitted of the charges.

Lt. Col. Steven Williams, the squadron commander, said that two of the airmen had already finished their sentences and left the service. The other three were currently spending time at the military confinement facility in Mannheim, Germany.

The airmen at Darby were a part of the Aviano-based 31st Fighter Wing at the time of the strikes that a U.S. investigation has transferred legal authority to the 38th Combat Support Wing. Four of the courts-martial were held at Ramstein Air Base in Germany.

E-mail Kent Harris at: harris@jmail.estrpides.osd.mil

BODYBUILDING.COM

GET THE RESULTS THAT GET ATTENTION!

BODYBUILDING.COM

will save you up to 50% on your supplements.

Fastest shipping directly to your APO/FPO.

Orders over \$75 get a free T-Shirt!

GET FREE TRAINING AND NUTRITION PROGRAMS!

- ++ EQUIPMENT & ACCESSORIES
- ++ MUSCLE BUILDERS
- ++ WEIGHT GAINERS
- ++ SEXUAL HEALTH
- ++ NUTRITION TIPS
- ++ WEIGHT LOSS

SAVE UP TO 50% ON YOUR SUPPLEMENTS AND GET FREE TRAINING AND NUTRITION PROGRAMS!

"The service I received from Bodybuilding.com was first class.

The order was processed quickly and shipped expediently.

Foremost I would like to commend your selection and prices, the products I purchased were bought at half the price I would have otherwise bought them for.

Thank you, and keep up the excellent work."

Lt. Jonathan W.
US Army, Infantry

GET A 30 DAY SUPPLY OF:

- Muscle Building Protein
- Fat Burner
- Multi-Vitamins

Regular Price \$129.95



ALL FOR ONLY \$59.95

Log on today at www.bodybuilding.com and get the information that millions of satisfied customers have used to achieve their fitness goals. **FREE!**

BODYBUILDING.COM

BUILDING BETTER BODIES FOR LESS

Service for dead soldier

A memorial service was held Thursday at the Vileck chapel for a 94th Engineer Battalion soldier who died Tuesday in a car wreck near Grafenwöhr, Germany.

Spc. Lossie K. Brown, 22, was driving on Route 292 from Grafenwöhr to Amberg when his car crossed into oncoming traffic and was struck by a truck, according to a military news release.

Brown, a nuclear, biological and chemical specialist, was assigned to the 94th Engineer Battalion's 535th Combat Support Equipment Company based at Ramstein.

He is survived by his wife, Spc. Irene Brown, 71st Medical Detachment, Grafenwöhr, and a son, Keone, 18 months.

Bad-conduct discharge

BAMBERG, Germany — A 1st Battalion, 33rd Field Artillery Regiment soldier was sentenced to 25 months of confinement, given a bad-conduct discharge and ordered to forfeit all pay and allowances following a Jan. 5 court-martial in Bamberg.

As part of a pretrial agreement, Pvt. Matthew Wixon, 24, will serve no more than 21 months of confinement.

He pleaded guilty to charges of going from his appointed place of duty, failure to go to his appointed duty, willfully disobeying a superior commissioned officer, insubordination toward a noncommissioned officer, failure to obey an order, wrongful use of a controlled substance, assault, communicating a threat and breaking restriction.

Buses during strike

NAPLES, Italy — Shuttle bus services between the three Naval Support Activity Naples bases will not operate in the morning on Friday and the following two Fridays because of scheduled labor union strikes, base officials said.

On each of the three Fridays, the Navy shuttle buses that run between the bases at Capodichino, Grigiano and Agnano will begin services at 3:30 p.m., and continue through normal afternoon/evening schedules. The following Friday strike days are Jan. 28 and Feb. 4, base officials said.

Italian employees who work on U.S. military bases throughout Italy have planned for the three nationwide strikes to protest the labor agreement being negotiated between U.S. and union officials. Strikes are scheduled to last from 8 a.m. to noon on those Fridays.

From staff reports

New Naples fitness center to open Monday

Stars and Stripes

NAPLES, Italy — The Fitness Forum, the new gym built at the family support complex at Grignone in Naples, will open Monday with a ceremony at 6 a.m., Naval Support Activity Naples officials said.

In addition to an outdoor pool, the gym offers two racquetball courts, a spin room with 26 stationary spin bikes, an aerobics

room, free weight room, circuit weight area, cardio area, and men's and women's locker rooms with dry saunas.

The basketball court is lined for competition and intramural play and will have six backboards and three volleyball setups, base spokeswoman Lt. Cmdr. Jacky Fisher said. However, the court will not be available for basketball play on opening day, because the gym still is awaiting equipment

delivery, but it will be set up for volleyball play, she said.

"The scope of our programs will include aerobics, spinning, yoga, Pilates, martial arts, personal training, as well as fitness testing and assessments," she said. "Many of these programs will start on opening day."

The recreational pool is scheduled to open in May on Memorial Day weekend and will operate through Labor Day. The pool

features eight lanes along with a one-meter diving board and a 50-foot slide in the deep end, outdoor whirlpool and a children's pool. The pool will offer seasonal water aerobics, swim lessons, water exercise, and military lap swim during the summer.

The facility's normal operating hours will be from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sunday and U.S. holidays.

Military recruits face ASVAB fingerprinting

The Associated Press

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. — Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Greg Palmer has heard the stories: A recruit fearing failure sends a ringer to take the U.S. military's equivalent of the SAT, and then shows up at basic training.

"When we're going through school to become recruiters, they warn you," said Palmer, a recruiter in Wheeling for the past three years.

Now the Defense Department is taking steps to make sure people trying to enter the armed services are who they claim to be. It has enlisted the Biometrics Fusion Center in Clarksburg to help develop a new fingerprinting system for recruits.

The system will be tested later this year at military processing stations in Pittsburgh, Baltimore, Chicago, Los Angeles, Honolulu and San Juan, Puerto Rico, along with 21 mobile testing sites.

Fingerprints can verify that recruits are taking not only the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery, or ASVAB, themselves but also submitting to their physical exams.

John D. Woodward Jr., director of the Defense Department's Biometrics Management Office said the Defense Department can't say how many people try to cheat on their tests, "but there certainly is anecdotal evidence of individuals sending in ... a ringer to take the exam."

Live on the Economy?

Did you know that Stars and Stripes delivers to addresses on the local economy?

We are expanding our off-base delivery all the time.

Call today and find out if you live within our delivery area.

customerservice@mail.estripes.osd.mil
CIV: +49 (0)6155-601-262 • DSN 349-8262



Get the news that affects your life and the lives of your family. Every day.

STARS AND STRIPES
Your Hometown Newspaper

Message for our men and women in uniform...

WE ARE PROUD OF YOU!

From coast to coast, thousands of Americans are grateful for what you do and want to show you that they care. To see the actions and messages of support from these groups and individuals from all across America, visit www.stripes.com.

This is just a small token of appreciation, a way to say...



Please visit the site at www.stripes.com and click on the America Supports You button to view the messages of support and to submit your own thank you notes as well!

STARS AND STRIPES
Your Hometown Newspaper



Edelweiss resort getting good reviews

Troops on Iraq leave, vacation find luxury, relaxation at getaway spot

BY CHARLIE COON
Stars and Stripes

GARMISCH, Germany — Terry Musket is a retired Army master sergeant, but he's not unemployed.

Musket spent the last eight months repairing helicopters in Iraq as an Army contractor. After a short rendezvous with his wife and kids, Musket is heading back to Iraq for eight more months.

The family spent part of its get-together last week at the Edelweiss Lodge and Resort, the newly opened, Army-owned hotel in the Bavarian Alps, which is getting good reviews from people who've come from downrange.

"It's awesome," said Musket, who works near Baghdad with 4th Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division. "In some respects, it's unnerving because it's so peaceful. You're waiting for a rocket to go off, a mortar to go off."

"But I've gotten more sleep since I've been here... it's very relaxing."

The 330-room Edelweiss Lodge, which opened Sept. 15, 2004, and cost \$80 million to build, replaced three hotels that were previously operated by Armed Forces Recreation Center Europe.

For U.S. forces on rest and recuperation leave or block leave, prices are fairly cheap. Single rooms go for \$90 for two nights and double-occupancy rooms cost \$120. There are complimentary tours and activities to keep the kids busy as well.

The opening hasn't gone off without a hitch, however. There have been a few hiccups along

the way — doors that needed adjusting, plumbing that leaked.

But there have been no major failures, according to Christopher Forbes, Edelweiss spokesman. "We have been overwhelmed by the facility is functioning," Forbes said.

"We occasionally conduct maintenance repairs to mechanical items. When these situations occur, we attempt to minimize any guest impact."

The hotel has been operating at 90 percent to 100 percent occupancy since it opened, Forbes said, and while people have at times not been able to get a room on certain dates, he said rooms normally are available within a few days of the guest's first choice.

"If a guest has no flexibility in their dates, it is strongly suggested to book as far in advance as possible," Forbes said. "This is especially true for federal holidays, [schools'] spring break and other times when children are out of school."

Staff Sgt. Justin Evans, of the 1st Infantry Division's Division Support Command in Kitzingen, was vacationing last week with his wife, Nita, and their 4-year-old son, Zachary.

Evans, of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, was among the first soldiers to return from Iraq to the 1st Infantry Division's yearlong deployment.

"It feels kind of nice to be pampered," he said. "You don't expect it to be this nice when you get here," he said. "I've paid a lot more to stay in much worse hotels than this."

When the rest of 1st ID returns



PHOTOS BY CHARLIE COON/Stars and Stripes

Above: Terry Musket, center, a retired Army master sergeant who is working as an Army contractor in Iraq, spent part of his two-weeks' leave at the Edelweiss Lodge in Garmisch, Germany, with, from left, wife Jane and their children, William, 6; Eva, 9; Anna, 11; and Grace, 14.

Below: Nick and Tiffany Chobot, who are senior airmen with the 435th Services Squadron at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, said they found the resort a relaxing place to spend time after returning from Iraq.

over the next few months, Evans said he would share his experiences with them.

"Absolutely I'll be telling my soldiers about it," he said.

Nick and Tiffany Chobot, who are married and both are senior airmen with the 435th Services Squadron at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, also were pleasantly surprised when they arrived at the Edelweiss after a four-month deployment in Iraq.

"It's very nice, very relaxing," Tiffany Chobot said. "We thought it would be smaller."

More information about R&R and block-leave eligibility can be found at www.edelweisslodge.andresort.com

E-mail charlie coon at: coon@mail.strips.osd.mil



LEO SHANE III/Stars and Stripes

Cindy Sheehan clutches a photo of her deceased son, Casey, at Wednesday's protest. Casey died during an April mission in Sadr City. Families of several troops killed in action tried to confront Defense Department officials on Wednesday, but were barred by police from entering the Pentagon.

Families of Iraq dead turned away at Pentagon

Building police officers: Protesters lacked permits

BY LEO SHANE III
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Pentagon police on Wednesday turned away family members of troops killed in Iraq who wanted to confront Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld on the reasons for the war in Iraq.

The group of about 20 was stopped before entering Pentagon property by about a dozen officers, who told the protesters they did not have the proper permission to enter the building.

Organizers said they have been petitioning for the meeting for weeks, but department officials are ignoring their requests.

"The man who was too busy to personally sign the Killed in Action letters these families received is apparently too busy to acknowledge the request of the Gold Star families for this meeting," Nancy Lessin, co-founder of Military Families Speak Out, told reporters gathered for Wednesday's protest.

Five Gold Star families — ones who have lost a son or daughter to fighting in Iraq — brought pictures and letters to the

"The man who was too busy to personally sign the Killed in Action letters these families received is apparently too busy to acknowledge the request of the Gold Star families for this meeting."

Nancy Lessin, co-founder of Military Families Speak Out

event to present to the secretary, and asked police to pass the items along to illustrate their loss and grief.

Cindy Sheehan, an Alabama resident whose son Casey was killed during a mission in Sadr City last April, sheltered a photo of her son from the snow with her arms as the group tried to convince police to let them by.

"I wanted them to see my son," she said, weeping. "I wanted them to see the consequences of his actions. ... I have the feeling they feel he was a dispensable asset to them."

Sheehan flew to Washington on Wednesday and planned to take part in the group's inauguration protests on Thursday.

Department of Defense officials did not return calls seeking comment. Police who confronted the families offered numbers where protesters could obtain per-

mits and set up formal interviews, but said security concerns prohibited allowing any of the group onto Pentagon grounds.

Lessin, whose son recently returned from his overseas service, said the goal of both protests is to show the war in Iraq is "a reckless military misadventure that never should have happened."

"Shane on Secretary Rumsfeld for not recognizing these families, and shame on those who sent our children to war based on lies," she said.

Families said they also wanted Rumsfeld to explain why troops in many cases weren't properly trained or equipped for the fighting, and when the other troops will be brought home.

"We're here to try and bring the truth to the Pentagon," said Celeste Zappala, a Philadelphia resident whose son Sherwood was killed in Baghdad last April.

E-mail Leo Shane III at: shane@strips.osd.mil

Foot patrols watchful of mosque, markets

BY JASON CHUDY
Stars and Stripes

BAGHDAD — With its golden dome and four large minarets, the Jami al-Kazimiya mosque in the city's Kadhamiya neighborhood is considered one of the Muslim Shiites' holiest sites in Iraq. The mosque is just a short walk from Forward Operating Base Justice, home to the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment. So, in addition to their normal patrols around their sector, battalion soldiers regularly walk the streets and markets that surround the mosque.

On Saturday morning, a few dozen Company A soldiers and local Iraqi National Guardsmen left the base and made the one-kilometer walk to the mosque.

"We try to do a minimum of one totally dismounted [foot] patrol per week [around the mosque]," said 1st Sgt. Brian Byrd. "We try to include the ING in all of our patrols ... because they've got a vested interest in the area — more so than us."

The Jami al-Kazimiya mosque is the burial site for two important Shiite imams. A shrine was built over the grave site of the seventh imam, Musa ibn Ja'far al-Kazim. His grandson, the ninth imam, Muhammad ibn Ali al-taqi al-Jawad, also is buried on the grounds.

The area is an important pilgrimage site for the Shiites, and earlier this month thousands of pilgrims traveled to the mosque for the traditional observance of the death of the ninth imam.

But it's not just Iraqis who visit the site, the soldiers said. Many U.S. officials and media who visit FOB Justice are often taken on foot patrols in the area, which is considered one of the safer parts of the 4th Battalion's sector.

"It's a pretty safe area," said Pfc. Jacob Bauer of the company's 1st Platoon. "It's not like you're going out on a dismounted patrol that's going to get everybody killed."



JASON CHUDY/Stars and Stripes

Soldiers and an interpreter from Company A, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment drink tea on a Kadhamiya side street recently as the shop vendor clips his finger nails. The Company A members are, from left, Staff Sgt. Lomnie Schultz, interpreter "Chris," 1st Sgt. Brian Byrd and SPC. Richard Shiver. Byrd asked the man about his views on the upcoming election and the availability of gas in the area.

"As long as you've got support [from the FOB], it's not a big deal, they're pretty friendly," said Sgt. Alfred Pfaff about the area residents.

As the joint patrol walked down the main street between the base and the mosque, hundreds of Iraqis milled about the small shops and street vendors. Most watched indifferently as the patrol walked by, but the first few soldiers passed most returned to their shopping or resumed conversations.

These daytime foot patrols, Byrd said, are important for the soldiers and for the overall military effort in Iraq.

"The biggest thing is it breaks the monotony of constantly doing vehicle patrols," Byrd said. "We're light infantry, so it gets us back to basics. We can work on some skills, [such as] speed control, maintaining distance."

The patrols avoid some of the more narrow and crowded alleyways.

"I'm in the markets surrounded by people, it's easy to get your throat cut," Bauer warned.

The soldiers sometimes turn into sightseers. Heading past the mosque on a crowded — but wide — street, a few soldiers pulled out cameras.

"Yeah, we take a few pictures," said Bauer. "We don't go there much."

The patrols are spread between different platoons so some of the soldiers have gotten close to the mosque only a few times during daylight hours. The battalion regularly runs vehicle patrols through the area after the 11 p.m. curfew.

Some nights, Pfaff said, soldiers will leave the Humvees and

walk through the area, but never without the vehicles nearby. They don't — or at least shouldn't — encounter people on these nighttime patrols, so the daylight patrols are run for more than security.

"It gives us face time with the people," Byrd said. "It shows them we're human, too." The soldiers' close interactions with the passers-by allow them to gather information on anything from people's impressions of the upcoming elections to crime or insurgent problems in the area.

As if running in the upcoming election himself, Byrd made eye contact and gave the traditional Arabic greeting of "Peace be with you" to many passing Iraqis.

During the last half of the patrol, the soldiers stopped for a few minutes at a main intersection leading to the mosque. Most provided security as a few soldiers talked to Iraqis who were milling about. One officer quickly bought a silk scarf for his wife, and an Iraqi boy brought two Americans hot fried dough balls that tasted like a hush puppy.

Pfaff said most of the soldiers have been offered, and accepted, something to eat from area residents and businessmen. He said they limit what they eat, however, as most have concerns about the cleanliness of some Iraqi kitchens.

A few blocks later, the patrol stopped for *chai*, the Iraqi word for tea. Byrd and a few other soldiers talked to the tea seller through an interpreter before paying for their tea and continuing on.

Less than two hours after the patrol started, the soldiers returned to FOB Justice with a few photographs and trinkets, and some militant group's shot being fired.

"It's not a training mission," Byrd said, "but it does help us keep our focus."

E-mail: Jason Chudy at: chudyj@mail.strips.esd.mil

U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Wednesday, at least 1,368 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 1,073 died as a result of hostile action, the Defense Department said.

The figures include three military civilians. The AP count is four higher than the Defense Department's tally, last updated at 10 a.m. Wednesday.

The British military has reported 76 deaths; Italy, 19; Poland, 16; Ukraine, 16; Spain, 11; Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia, seven; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary, Latvia and Kazakhstan one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,230 U.S. military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 964 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

■ No deaths reported.

The latest identifications reported by military:

Army Pfc. George R. Geer, 27, Cortez, Colo., and Pfc. Staff Sgt. Thomas E. Viattagliano, 33, New Haven, Conn., killed Monday when a vehicle-borne explosive detonated in Ramadi, Iraq, assigned to the 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Casey, South Korea.

U.S. troops launch more sweeps in Mosul

BY JASON KEYSER
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — U.S. troops launched fresh raids Thursday around the northern city of Mosul to disrupt in guerrillas who have threatened to disrupt the upcoming election.

Iraqi forces sealed off main routes into Baghdad one day after a wave of car bombings rocked the capital.

An Islamic Web site linked to an Iraqi militant group claimed that a Briton and a Swede were kidnapped in the northern town of Beiji and killed after they were found to be intelligence agents. British and Swedish officials were checking the claims.

Also, a Brazilian who disappeared during an ambush Wednesday in Beiji probably was kidnapped, according to his company, the Sao-Paulo-based Constructora Norberto Odebrecht SA, which is working on a power plant in the city.

Troops from the Army's Stryker Brigade Combat Team detained nine people and seized weapons in the overnight sweeps in Mosul, the military said.

U.S. forces have intensified nighttime operations in Iraq's third-largest city in a race to

make it safe enough for voters to cast ballots in the Jan. 30 parliamentary and regional elections. In the past two weeks alone, U.S. and Iraqi forces have rounded up 20 suspected insurgents there, the U.S. military said.

A day after a string of car bombings in Baghdad, major highways leading into the capital from the south and west were sealed off by Iraqi forces.

Alaa Mahmoud, an Iraqi National Guard captain at one roadblock, said he was under orders to prevent all vehicle traffic from entering the city. Government officials said he was not reached for comment because officers were closed at the start of a four-day Muslim holiday.

A surge in car bombings and street clashes in the city has followed November's U.S. offensive in the former insurgent hub of Fallujah, and U.S. commanders believe many rebel fighters who fled that siege have set up new operations in Mosul and other cities.

In the latest fighting, insurgents shelled a hospital in Mosul where U.S. and Iraqi forces had taken up positions in an annex wing, hospital director Faris Hani said. Doctors and patients fled, but no casualties were reported.

American soldiers on patrol Tuesday in Mosul killed three insurgents who fired from them from a car, the military said.

The claim that the Swede and Briton were abducted and killed could not be verified. The statement, issued by Al-Faraj al-Sunnah, a militant group, was posted on the group's Web site used as a clearinghouse for the group's claims and extremist material.

"We in Ansar al-Sunnah managed, thanks be to God, to get the heads of the enemy crusader infidels and those cooperating with them," the claim said.

"The lions of faith managed to set a tight trap and kidnap two agents: one British and one Swedish. The trap in Iraq was for intelligence apparatuses of the infidel troops in Beiji, and we executed God's punishment by killing them," it said.

The Brazilian who was not identified, disappeared after insurgents ambushed his car on a highway Wednesday, killing a British contract security worker and an Iraqi guard, Iraqi police Lt. Shaalan Alwaili said.

Iraqi police earlier had said the missing foreigner was a Japanese engineer, but later said he was from Brazil. The two men slain in the ambush were employed by the British-based Janus Security Risk Management, Ltd. News video of the aftermath of the attack showed two cars riddled with bullets and the ground soaked with blood.



A Marine from the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit guards prisoners captured during an early morning raid in Jabala, Iraq, on Wednesday. The raid kicked off Operation Checkmate, a fresh offensive against the insurgency.

IN THE WORLD

U.S. too busy to launch attack, Iran says

BY ALI AKBAR DAREINI

The Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — President Mohammad Khatami said Thursday that the United States has too many problems in Iraq to attack Iran, but that his country has plans to move forward with Washington make any aggressive moves.

Khatami's remarks, made in an interview with Iran's state-run radio while the president was wrapping up a 10-day, seven-nation tour of Africa, marked the most senior response to recent reports indicating the United States may be considering military action against Iran. Khatami was expected to return from Uganda on Thursday.

Khatami responds to reports in States about administration conducting secret missions

"The possibility of a U.S. attack against Iran is very low. We think America is not in a position to take a hasty action of attacking Iran," Khatami said.

"The U.S. is deeply engaged in Iraq. We move forward with full vigilance. We don't welcome any tension but if, God forbid, it commits an act of aggression, we have prepared ourselves. We have plans for it."

He did not elaborate on how Iran would respond or defend itself.

On Monday, President Bush said on NBC's "Today" show that his administration

would not rule out the possibility of using military force against Iran over its controversial nuclear program. "I hope we can solve it diplomatically but I will never take any option off the table," he said.

Also Monday, Pulitzer Prize-winning writer Seymour Hersh reported in The New Yorker magazine that the Bush administration had been "conducting secret reconnaissance missions inside Iran at least since last summer" for the purpose of gathering intelligence and targeting information.

White House officials rejected that report as inaccurate, but top U.S. officials have articulated a tough U.S. policy toward Iran. Beyond years of animosity between the two countries, Washington considers Iran's nuclear program a threat, maintaining it is aimed at developing nuclear weapons, not as an energy resource, as Iran claims.

Iran's Defense Minister Ali Shamkhani said Monday that Iran has developed a strong military capability and will deter any attacks against it. He also did not provide details, but had noted in November that Iran has been able to mass produce its Shahab-3 missile, which is capable of reaching Israel and U.S. forces in the Middle East.

Fargo: U.S. winding down tsunami effort

BY LELY T. DUHARI

The Associated Press

BANDA ACEH, Indonesia — The U.S. military — the largest group aiding tsunami survivors — said Thursday it will immediately begin scaling back its relief operations. A barrage of gunfire sent survivors diving for cover at a refugee camp in an Indonesian region torn by a war between separatists and the government. In Japan, nations at a U.N. conference rallied behind plans for a network of buoys to warn of future killer waves in the Indian Ocean.

Adm. Thomas Fargo, commander in chief of the U.S. Pacific Command, said the U.S. military "will start right now transferring functions to the appropriate host nations and international organizations."

About 15,000 American troops

have been deployed to tsunami-hit nations, where huge waves spawned by a massive earthquake swept away coastal settlements on Dec. 26. Most of the soldiers have been sent to worst-hit Sumatra island in Indonesia.

At a news conference in Malaysia, Fargo noted that the humanitarian missions in Indonesia, India, Sri Lanka, Thailand and other affected nations had moved from the "immediate relief phase ... toward rehabilitation and reconstruction."

Fargo did not say how long it would take for U.S. troops to pull out completely from affected areas — but he cited U.S. military aid efforts after a powerful cyclone struck Bangladesh in 1991, which were wound down after about 60 days.

"That is probably a pretty good benchmark" for the U.S. military's current tsunami operations, he said.



At right, U.S. military helicopter crewman Petty Officer Patrick Quiller, 24, from New Braunfels, Texas, along with Lt. Rory Dupont, 28, from Jacksonville, Fla., ask villagers what relief supplies they need at Lhok Guci in Indonesia's Aceh province on Sumatra island on Thursday.

Indonesian officials have said they want foreign forces to leave Aceh province, at the northern tip of Sumatra, by the end of March.

The shooting outside the city of Banda Aceh underscored the fragile security situation in Aceh province, where separatist guerrillas and government forces have been fighting for 27 years.

A series of bursts of gunfire went off in the hills near the relief camp on the hilly mountain resort of Lambreh.

Neither the rebels nor soldiers were visible from the camp during the shooting. No refugees were injured, and the gunfire did not appear to be directed at the camp.

World's largest iceberg threatens penguins

The Associated Press

WELLINGTON, New Zealand — The world's largest iceberg appears to have run aground near Antarctica, posing more problems to scientific bases and penguins, where tens of thousands of chicks face starvation, scientists said Thursday.

Experts had predicted that

B15A — a 100-mile-long iceberg — would likely slam into a huge glacier near the U.S. McMurdo Research Station in Antarctica some time last weekend.

But the iceberg appeared to have run aground about three miles from the 60-mile long glacier, known as the Drygalski Ice Tongue, in Antarctica, New Zealand's science strategy man-

ager, Dean Peterson, said Thursday.

"This berg has wedged itself between two shallow areas. It really hasn't gotten any closer for a week now," Peterson said.

"It's kind of shimmying back and forth now ... so I don't know whether it's ever going to get to the Drygalski or not."

The apparent grounding of the

1,200-square-mile icebergs could present problems to scientific bases on the frozen continent.

B15A has blocked wind and water currents that break up ice floes in McMurdo Sound during the Antarctic summer, causing a build-up of ice behind it. The U.S. McMurdo Station and New Zealand's Scott Base are located on the sound, and Italy's Terra Nova base is nearby.

Officials talk missile defense in Australia

The Associated Press

CANBERRA, Australia — U.S. defense officials were in Australia on Thursday to discuss a missile defense shield with their counterparts, officials said.

The meeting comes after the two allies signed an agreement in July that committed Australia to helping develop a U.S. ballistic missile defense shield with Australia, has yet to specify its contribution, though Washington has shown an interest in Canberra's new radar technology.

"The talks are exploring possible areas of cooperation on missile defense concentrating on research and development," an Australian Defense Department spokeswoman said on condition of anonymity.

"The government will consider any proposal once they are fully developed," she added.

The department did not say when the U.S. delegation arrived in Australia or how long they would stay.

President Bush's administration has made the deployment of missile defenses a key aspect of its national security policy, saying it is vital to defend the United States against missiles launched by hostile nations.

Critics charge the technology is neither ready nor affordable, and say it fails to address the greater threat of weapons of mass destruction brought in by terrorists.

Australia's neighbors, as well as opposition lawmakers, have criticized Canberra's involvement, which they argue could lead to missile proliferation in the Asia-Pacific region.

Australia says trials of the country's Jindalee over-the-horizon-radar system in April showed it could detect ballistic missiles being launched.

Church: Condoms still immoral

MADRID, Spain — The Catholic Church in Spain backtracked from a leading bishop's groundbreaking statement in support of condom use to fight the spread of AIDS, saying instead the church still believes artificial contraception is immoral.

A ruling Socialist politician involved in health care issues said she was mystified by the church's about-face in the space of 24 hours. Gay groups said they regretted the church's return to old policy after its "attack on lucidity."

Pakistan fuel truck attacked

QUETTA, Pakistan — Suspected Taliban rebels opened fire on a fuel truck heading to the main U.S. base in southern Afghanistan, killing the Pakistani driver and wounding his two assistants, an official said Thursday.

The attackers fled after the 10 p.m. assault Wednesday in the Dabari area of Spinboldak district in Afghanistan's Kandahar province, said district chief Fazlullahin Agha.

Speaking by phone, Agha said the fuel container truck, traveling from Pakistan, had been loaded to Kandahar to supply the American military base there. He said such trucks had come under fire in the past.

Afghan suicide attack injures 20

KABUL, Afghanistan — A suicide bomber blew himself up Thursday near an Afghan warlord who helped the United States defeat the Taliban, injuring more than 20 people but failing to harm the apparent target, officials said.

A spokesman for the hardline militia said it carried out the attack on Abdul Rashid Dostum to avenge the killing of Taliban prisoners. Police said the attack carried the hallmark of al-Qaida.

From The Associated Press

IN THE STATES

Rice bows 'debate' as secretary of state

BY BARRY SCHWEID

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Trying to make their mark on President Bush's strategy in Iraq, Senate Democrats extracted a promise from Condoleezza Rice to level with them when she takes over as secretary of state.

And Rice seems agreeable, to a point.

"We can certainly have, I think, a healthy debate about the course that we should take going forward," she said Wednesday in response to Democrats who criticized Bush's rationale for over-



Rice

Rice promised. "My assessments may not always be ones that you want to hear. They may not always be the ones with which you agree. But I will tell you what I

throwing Saddam Hussein and his handling of a postwar insurgency — that is taking a growing toll of American soldiers in Iraq."

think."

And that, she said, "is a promise that I make to you today."

Rice coupled the promise with an admission that some Bush administration decisions in Iraq were bad ones, but she did not elaborate or give ground on the principal elements of the administration's policy there.

Critics on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, only two of whom — Democrats John Kerry of Massachusetts and Barbara Boxer of California — voted against her confirmation, clearly were hoping that Rice would act

as a check on Bush.

Their criticism is likely to carry over to next week when Democrats will speak on the nomination on the Senate floor on Tuesday, with a vote likely the next day.

Initially, Rice had looked forward to confirmation Thursday a few hours after President Bush took the oath of office for a second term.

White House chief of staff Andrew Card said Thursday the Democrats' decision to delay her confirmation smacked of "petty politics."

"She certainly is qualified and ready to be the secretary of state," he said on CBS' "The Early Show."

The Democrats' motivation in seeking exchanges with Rice is apparent. They hope that by engaging Rice in a debate of some kind, they might be able to influence policy.

They seemed to have Colin Powell, her predecessor, in mind. His reputation for taking strong stands even if they conflicted with what Bush was hearing from other advisers made him popular on Capitol Hill, although he never did more than hint at having a divergent point of view.

San Francisco considering gun ban to stanch homicides

BY KIM CURTIS

The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Frustrated by an increase in homicides, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors has proposed a sweeping ban on handguns, injecting this liberal city into the national debate over gun control.

The proposal would bar residents from keeping handguns in their homes or businesses and prohibit the sale, manufacture and distribution of any firearms or ammunition in San Francisco.

Only two other major U.S. cities — Washington and Chicago — have implemented handgun bans, and both were quickly challenged in the courts. The national gun lobby already has vowed to challenge San Francisco's ban if voters approve it.

San Francisco has tried before to ban handguns. In 1982, a city ordinance was overturned because it applied to anyone who entered the city. A state court ruled that such actions were reserved for the state Legislature.

The supervisor who proposed the most recent ban, Chris Daly, said he and his counterparts already have received threatening calls and e-mails from gun supporters.

"Up to this point, I don't think anyone has come up with anything that's working," Daly said. "This is my contribution to trying to figure out a way to turn back the tide of violence."

San Francisco had 88 murders in 2004, up from 69 in 2003.

Sixty-three of last year's homicides involved a firearm, police Sgt. Neville Gittens said. The city has averaged 71 homicides a year for the past decade, from a low of 58 in 1998 to a high of 99 in 1995. About 777,000 people live in San Francisco, according to the 2000 census.

While last year's number of homicides is an increase from the previous year, it's comparable to other U.S. cities of similar size — roughly 750,000 residents. In 2003, for example, Jacksonville, Fla., had 92 murders and Indianapolis had 112.

Chuck Michel, a Los Angeles lawyer who represents the National Rifle Association and the California Rifle and Pistol Association, said San Francisco's plan is ill-conceived and misplanned.

"It's turning firearms into a scapegoat for failed city policies," Michel said. "Criminals are never going to have any kind of problem getting the kind of guns they want."

Michel said he's preparing a legal challenge, claiming a ban would violate the Second Amendment and that cities do not have the authority to regulate firearms.

If approved by a majority of the city's voters in November, the law would take effect in January 2006. Residents, who have bought nearly 22,000 handguns since 1996, would have 90 days to relinquish their weapons. The ban would make an exception for police officers, security guards, military personnel and others who require guns for their job.

Gun-control opponents argue such bans elsewhere have had little or no long-term effect.

Washington banned handguns in 1976 and had an immediate 25 percent drop in firearm-related homicides, according to a 1991 study that appeared in the New England Journal of Medicine. The number of homicides fell from 13 per month to about 10.

In later years, however, the district became notorious for its violent-crime rate. Last year, the district had 248 homicides, or 20.7 per month — a rate of 44 homicides per 100,000



Two pedestrians walk in front of High Bridge Arms gun store on Mission Street in San Francisco. Frustrated by a 28 percent increase in homicides during the past year, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors has proposed a measure banning handguns.

residents. By comparison, San Francisco, has a rate of 9.2. Daly, who hails from the Washington area, said it's unfair to compare the two cities. The district faces greater poverty, unemployment and "serious social issues that I wouldn't expect the majority of pro-gun America to understand," he said.

Hunt terror suspects

BOSTON — Authorities have launched a manhunt across the Northeast for four Chinese nationals and two Iraqis described by the FBI as potential terror suspects who may be heading for Boston.

Authorities insisted that there was no confirmed threat.

Federal law enforcement officials said they had received a tip Wednesday about an unspecified threat against Boston, and released photographs of the two Chinese men and two women they were seeking.

A Transportation Security Administration official said a security briefing indicated the FBI also was looking for two Iraqis.

Confirmation delayed

WASHINGTON — Attorney General designate Alberto Gonzales will have to wait at least another week before getting a Senate committee vote on his nomination to be the nation's top law enforcement officer.

Democrats on the Senate Judiciary Committee decided Wednesday to ask for a one-week hold on Gonzales' nomination.

Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., said the committee should not vote on Gonzales yet because the nominee has not yet answered all of the Democrats' questions.

Spellings agreement

WASHINGTON — The lawmaker who has stalled Margaret Spellings' nomination to be education secretary agreed on Wednesday to allow a confirmation vote after she promised to review promotional tactics that they still made the department under fire.

At issue are steps taken to promote President Bush's education law. The Education Department hired a public relations firm and paid for advertising and access with a prominent commentator.

"I made clear to Ms. Spellings that we were going to make an effort at the Department of Education must stop," Sen. Frank Lautenberg said.

The Government Accountability Office is trying to determine whether the department violated a federal ban on propaganda.

From The Associated Press

Firms report problems at exit polls in 2004

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Two firms that conducted Election Day exit polls for major news organizations reported Wednesday that they found a number of problems with the way the polls were carried out last year, resulting in estimates that overstated John Kerry's share of the vote.

Edison Media Research and Mitofsky International found that

the Democratic challenger's supporters were more likely than President Bush's supporters to participate in exit poll interviews.

They also found that more errors occurred in exit polls conducted by younger interviewers, and half of the interviewers were 34 or under. The polling firms laid out their findings to the consortium of news organizations, known as the National Election Pool.

The news organizations —

ABC, CBS, NBC, CNN, Fox News and The Associated Press — formed the consortium to get exit polling data for the 2004 election after a previous group known as the Voter News Service was disbanded. Edison and Mitofsky said problems contributed to exit poll data that overstated the vote for Kerry nationally and in 26 states, while data for four states overstated the vote for Bush.

They noted that in a number of

precincts, interviewers were kept 50 feet or more away from polling places, potentially skewing results toward people motivated to go out of their way to participate in exit polls. They also found suggestions that interviewers may not have carefully followed rules for selecting voters at random, which may have skewed results.

Despite the problems, the firms noted that they still made correct calls for all races on election night.

Bible advertisement

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Rolling Stone magazine declined to run an advertisement for a new translation of the Bible aimed at young people, America's largest Bible publisher said.

Zondervan, a division of HarperCollins Publishers, bought space in the magazine months ago as part of an ad campaign for Today's New International Version. Doug Lockhart, Zondervan's executive vice president of marketing, said Wednesday.

False health charges

TUSTIN, Calif. — A health supplement company agreed to pay \$3.6 million to settle civil charges it misled consumers by marketing a product it claimed helps prevent and treat cancer and AIDS.

Body Wise International Inc.'s ads on the Internet and product promotion at seminars violated California's Health and Safety Code provisions on product claims, investigators said.

Bacteria in water

WASHINGTON — Coliform bacteria are showing up in the water systems of more jurisdictions than last summer, when the government first took steps toward requiring sanitation improvements.

The Environmental Protection Agency will now have domestic airlines test themselves and submit results to the agency to see if the trend continues.

Coliform bacteria, usually harmless, indicate that harmful organisms could be present.

Calling for sources

NEW YORK — The U.S. government should be given access to telephone records of two New York Times reporters who used confidential sources in articles about Islamic charities, a federal prosecutor argued.

Patrick Fitzgerald said two Islamic charities, Holy Land Foundation of Texas and Global Relief Foundation in Illinois, were effectively rewarmed of government funds when a Times reporter called the charities for comment shortly after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

From The Associated Press

Fla., La. courts rule against gays

BY VICKIE CHACHERE

The Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — After 27 years together, the Rev. Nancy Wilson and Dr. Paula Schoenwetter got married last summer in Massachusetts, along with thousands of other same-sex couples who wanted their unions legalized.

Massachusetts is the only state that allows gay marriage, but Wilson and Schoenwetter want their home state of Florida to recognize their union, too. Their attempt to get that recognition, though, was soundly rejected Wednesday when a judge dismissed their lawsuit, upholding a federal law that lets states ban same-sex marriages.

The ruling was described by legal experts as the first of its kind.

"This is a legal shot heard 'round the world," said attorney Ellis Rubin, who filed the lawsuit on the women's behalf. "But we are not giving up. ... This case is going to be resolved in the U.S. Supreme Court, and I have said that since the day I filed it."

Also Wednesday, the Louisiana Supreme Court unanimously reinstated an anti-gay marriage amendment to the state constitution that was overwhelmingly approved by voters in September.

The rulings are the latest in a national debate on the legality and morality of same-sex marriage that has been raging since Massachusetts became the first state to legalize the unions.



Attorney Ellis Rubin speaks to reporters in Tampa, Fla., in July concerning his clients, the Rev. Nancy Wilson, center, and Dr. Paula Schoenwetter, both from Bradenton, Fla. On Wednesday, a Florida judge upheld the federal law letting states ban same-sex marriages, dismissing a lawsuit by the two women seeking to force the state to recognize their Massachusetts marriage.

Although several federal cases are challenging the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act, attorneys said the ruling in Florida was the first by a federal judge on a direct challenge to the law.

Wilson, a minister for Metropolitan Community Churches, one of the world's largest congregations of gay Christians, said in a state-

ment that she was prepared to take her challenge to the Supreme Court.

"Despite this ruling, we are still married in our hearts, and legally married in Massachusetts," she said. Her partner added, "No civil rights movement was lost on one bad court decision."

The women argued the De-

fense of Marriage Act was unconstitutional because it was discriminatory on the basis of sex and violated their fundamental rights.

U.S. District Judge James S. Moody said he could not declare marriage a "fundamental right" as the lawsuit urged him to do, and that he was bound to follow legal precedent.

Modest drinking may help cognitive health

By ROB STEIN

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Women who imbibe a little wine, beer or spirits every day are less likely to tan teetotalers to test their memories and other thinking powers fade as they age, according to the largest study to assess alcohol's impact on the brain.

The study of more than 12,000 elderly women found that those who consumed light to moderate amounts of alcohol daily had about a 20 percent lower risk of experiencing problems with their mental abilities later in life.

"Low levels of alcohol appear to have cogni-

tive benefits," said Francine Grodstein of the Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, senior author on the study, which was published in Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine. "Women who consistently were drinking about one-half to one drink per day had both less cognitive impairment as well as less decline in their cognitive function compared to women who didn't drink at all."

While the study involved only women, the findings probably hold true for men, although previous research indicates that men seem to benefit from drinking slightly more — one to two drinks per day, researchers said.

Researchers analyzed data about 12,480

women ages 70 to 81 participating in the Nurses Health Study, in which detailed information is being gathered about thousands of nurses as they age to try to assess how myriad lifestyle factors affect health.

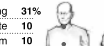
Alcohol consumption data had been gathered from the women regularly beginning when they were in their forties and fifties. The women also underwent detailed questioning by telephone when they reached their seventies to assess their ability to remember, reason and perform other mental functions.

On average, women who drank moderately tended to have the mental function of someone about a year and a half younger than those who abstained. No benefit was seen among women who drank more than that.

Cancer becomes top killer of most Americans

For the first time, cancer has surpassed heart disease as the top killer of Americans younger than 85, health officials said.

Rate of cancer deaths by type for top cancers in all ages*

MALE			FEMALE	
Lung	31%		27%	Lung
Prostate	10		15	Breast
Colon and rectum	10		10	Colon and rectum
Pancreas	5		6	Ovary
Leukemia	4		6	Pancreas
Esophagus	4		4	Leukemia
Liver	3			Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma
Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma	3		3	Lymphoma
Bladder	3		2	Uterine
Kidney	3		2	Multiple myeloma
			2	Nervous system**

* Estimates for 2005 ** Includes brain

Source: American Cancer Society

Drop in heart disease mortality means cancer is top killer of most Americans

The Associated Press

MILWAUKEE, Wis. — Cancer has taken over from heart disease as the top killer in the United States of people 85 and younger.

The reason is that deaths from both diseases are falling, but heart disease mortality has declined more.

"It's dropping fast enough that another disease is eclipsing it," said Dr. Walter Tsou, president of the American Public Health Association.

"It's good news in some ways and bad in others," because too

many people still smoke and are overweight, ensuring that both diseases will continue to cause deaths that could be prevented," said Dr. Teri Manolio, director of epidemiology for the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute.

The news is included in the American Cancer Society's annual statistical report, released Wednesday. In 2002, the most recent year for which information is available, 476,000 Americans younger than 85 died of cancer; 450,637 died of heart disease.

"This is a situation in which neither one of us wants to be No. 1," be-

cause far more deaths could be prevented, said Dr. Rose Marie Robertson, chief scientific officer of the American Heart Association.

A third of all cancers are related to smoking, and another third are related to obesity, poor diets and lack of exercise — all factors that also contribute to heart disease.

Heart disease sufferers have benefited from better surgical techniques and devices and from better drugs to treat heart problems and control factors such as high blood pressure, said Dr. Harmon Eyre, the cancer society's chief medical officer.

AFRTS Television Schedule

Updated sports listings are available on the last download page in the sports section or AFRTS Web site at <http://myaffrta.com/media/ent/mt/>

FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 2005

	AFN-FAMILY	AFN-MOVIE	AFN-EUROPE	AFN-KOREA	AFN-NEWS	AFN-SPORTS	SPECTRUM	AFN-PACIFIC
9:00	Stanley	Movie: "Brash of Faith: Family of Cops II" (1997, Drama)	Joe Phil	Jeopardy!	Nightline	College Basketball Marquette at DePaul, (Taped)	50 Minute Meals	Jeopardy!
9:30	Sagwa-Staness Cat Arthur (E)	Charles Bronson, Joe Perry, Jane Lee		Headline News	Headline News	Entertaining-Chemical	Headline News	Headline News
10:00	Reading Rainbow (E)		(6:46) Oprah Winfrey	ESPN News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	Decorating Cents	Decorating Cents	Decorating Cents
10:30	Reading Rainbow (E)		(3:35) Guiding Light	Advisory Block	Ring of the Hill	The Look for Less	The Look for Less	The Look for Less
11:00	Sagwa-Staness Cat Arthur (E)	(10:40) Movie: "Cool, Mean's Daughter" (1992, B)		City & Dine	The O'Reilly Factor	King of the Hill	King of the Hill	King of the Hill
11:30	Stanley	ography: Spike Spack, Tommy Lee Jones, Loretta Lynn	(17) General Hospital	Headline News	Meet My Folks "The Mancini"	The King of Queens	The King of Queens	The King of Queens
12:00	Dora the Explorer	Movie: "Sarah, Plain and Tall: Winter's End" (1998, Drama)	Headline News	Jeopardy!	Meet My Folks "The Mancini"	That '70s Show	That '70s Show	That '70s Show
12:30	The Wiggles' Manners	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Judge Judy	Fear Factor	Meet My Folks "The Mancini"	Wipe Saw "Smack Beaver"	Wipe Saw "Smack Beaver"	Wipe Saw "Smack Beaver"
13:00	Bob the Builder	Movie: "Sarah, Plain and Tall: Winter's End" (1998, Drama)	Headline News	Fear Factor	Meet My Folks "The Mancini"	Charm'd "Animal Pragnant"	Charm'd "Animal Pragnant"	Charm'd "Animal Pragnant"
13:30	Dragon Tales (E)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Fear Factor	Meet My Folks "The Mancini"	Law and Order "Sundown"	Law and Order "Sundown"	Law and Order "Sundown"
14:00	Blue's Clues	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Fear Factor	Meet My Folks "The Mancini"	Ally McBeal "One Hundred Years"	Ally McBeal "One Hundred Years"	Ally McBeal "One Hundred Years"
14:30	Barney & Friends: A picnic	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Fear Factor	Meet My Folks "The Mancini"	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
15:00	Furthest Home Video	2:55 Movie: "The Deep End of the Ocean" (1999, Drama)	Headline News	Fear Factor	Meet My Folks "The Mancini"	Any Day Now "I Feel Awful"	Any Day Now "I Feel Awful"	Any Day Now "I Feel Awful"
15:30	Full House: Road to Tokyo	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Fear Factor	Meet My Folks "The Mancini"	Third Watch	Third Watch	Third Watch
16:00	Pakistan	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Fear Factor	Meet My Folks "The Mancini"	Access Hollywood	Access Hollywood	Access Hollywood
16:30	Mr-Gi-Qi	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Fear Factor	Meet My Folks "The Mancini"	The Late Late Show	The Late Late Show	The Late Late Show
17:00	Doug (E)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Fear Factor	Meet My Folks "The Mancini"	The Simpsons	The Simpsons	The Simpsons
17:30	Rocket Power	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Fear Factor	Meet My Folks "The Mancini"	Everybody Loves Raymond	Everybody Loves Raymond	Everybody Loves Raymond
18:00	The Fairly OddParents	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Fear Factor	Meet My Folks "The Mancini"	The Amazing Race 6	The Amazing Race 6	The Amazing Race 6
19:00	All Grown Up	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Fear Factor	Meet My Folks "The Mancini"	Countdown-Obermann	Countdown-Obermann	Countdown-Obermann
19:30	Dave the Barbarian	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Fear Factor	Meet My Folks "The Mancini"	Entertainment Studios.com	Entertainment Studios.com	Entertainment Studios.com
20:00	Danny Phantom	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Fear Factor	Meet My Folks "The Mancini"	PGA Golf Cup Invitational	PGA Golf Cup Invitational	PGA Golf Cup Invitational
20:30	Drake & Josh "Football"	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Fear Factor	Meet My Folks "The Mancini"	Blue Planet: Seas of Life	Blue Planet: Seas of Life	Blue Planet: Seas of Life
21:00	That's So Raven	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Fear Factor	Meet My Folks "The Mancini"	Seinfeld "The Mango"	Seinfeld "The Mango"	Seinfeld "The Mango"
21:30	Sabrina, the Teenage Witch	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Fear Factor	Meet My Folks "The Mancini"	Blue Planet: Seas of Life	Blue Planet: Seas of Life	Blue Planet: Seas of Life
22:00	Switched	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Fear Factor	Meet My Folks "The Mancini"	Blue Planet: Seas of Life	Blue Planet: Seas of Life	Blue Planet: Seas of Life
22:30	Radio Free Roscoe "Gossip"	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Fear Factor	Meet My Folks "The Mancini"	Blue Planet: Seas of Life	Blue Planet: Seas of Life	Blue Planet: Seas of Life
23:00	The Cosby Show	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Fear Factor	Meet My Folks "The Mancini"	Blue Planet: Seas of Life	Blue Planet: Seas of Life	Blue Planet: Seas of Life
23:30	Home Improvement	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Fear Factor	Meet My Folks "The Mancini"	Blue Planet: Seas of Life	Blue Planet: Seas of Life	Blue Planet: Seas of Life

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22, 2005

00:00	Aaahh! Real Monsters	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
00:30	Rocket Power	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
1:00	SpongeBob SquarePants	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
1:30	Rugrats	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
2:00	All Grown Up	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
2:30	Dave the Barbarian	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
3:00	Danny Phantom	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
3:30	Drake & Josh "Football"	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
4:00	That's So Raven	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
4:30	Sabrina, the Teenage Witch	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
5:00	Sesame Street (E)	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
5:30	Barney & Friends (E)	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
6:00	Blue's Clues Body parts	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
6:30	Planet's Furthest Animals	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
7:00	Amazing Animal Video	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
7:30	Amazing Animal Video	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
8:00	Drake & Josh "Football"	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
8:30	Teamo Supremo (E)	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
9:00	Static Shock "Flashback"	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
9:30	Kim Possible "Triple S" (E)	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
10:00	Teen Titans "Man Rising"	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
10:30	Teen Titans "Man Rising"	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
11:00	Dragonball GT	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
11:30	Justice League	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
12:00	Teen Kids News (E)	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
12:30	Entertainment "Old Man Tui"	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
13:00	Trading Spas: Boy-Girl	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
13:30	Scout's Safari "Contraband"	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
14:00	Skunked TV	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
14:30	Wild America	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
15:00	The Most Extreme "Sinkers"	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
15:30	Hercules: The Legendary Journeys	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
16:00	Hercules: The Legendary Journeys	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
16:30	Doc: Dog City Scooter	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
17:00	The Wild Thornberryes	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
17:30	The Fairly OddParents	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
18:00	Rugrats	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
18:30	Movie: "The Last Emperor" (1987, Biography)	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
19:00	Movie: "The Last Emperor" (1987, Biography)	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
19:30	Movie: "The Last Emperor" (1987, Biography)	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
20:00	Movie: "The Last Emperor" (1987, Biography)	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
20:30	Movie: "The Last Emperor" (1987, Biography)	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
21:00	Movie: "The Last Emperor" (1987, Biography)	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
21:30	Movie: "The Last Emperor" (1987, Biography)	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
22:00	Movie: "The Last Emperor" (1987, Biography)	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
22:30	Movie: "The Last Emperor" (1987, Biography)	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
23:00	Movie: "The Last Emperor" (1987, Biography)	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
23:30	Movie: "The Last Emperor" (1987, Biography)	(11:00) Movie: "Top Gun" (1986, Drama)	Joe Jones, Loretta Lynn	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News

- full-service dealership
- tax-free car sales
- grab a great deal!

Autobahn Leasing

Darmstadt Office: Back gate of Gumbel-Frisch Kessen Ludwigschloß Strasse 15A 64285 Darmstadt
 Phone: 0619-951 0628 or 0619-9486-3000 • Fax: 0619-951-0629 • e-mail: info@autobahn-leasing.de
 Wiesbaden Office: Near Mainz-Kastel 105 Storage Station Bodestraße 38 55222 Mainz-Kastel
 Phone: 06131 25272 • fax: 06131 25304 • e-mail: info@autobahn-leasing.de

NEW! V70
 for life
 VOLVO

FACES

Darth Tater strikes back

A spud on the dark side.
That's how toy maker Hasbro Inc. is promoting its latest Mr. Potato Head figure, Darth Tater.



Darth Tater

The toy spud will be available next month, ahead of the May release of "Star Wars: Episode III — Revenge of the Sith," the latest installment in the film series.

Darth Tater will come with a light saber, cape and helmet, in addition to the regular Mr. Potato Head accessories such as eyes, mouth and nose.

The toy will retail for \$7.99. "Star Wars: Episode III," starring Ewan McGregor, Hayden Christensen and Natalie Portman, will open in theaters nationwide on May 19.

Inspired in Alabama

Three celebrities from Alabama have agreed to serve as role models for students in career and technical education programs.



Jackson

The Alabama Board of Education passed resolutions last week commending

Courteney Cox Arquette, former professional football and baseball star Bo Jackson and pop singer Lionel Richie for agreeing to be role models for career and technical education students. All three celebrities attended public schools in Alabama.

All that jazz auction

A treasure trove of jazz memorabilia — including saxophones that belonged to Charlie Parker and John Coltrane, Dizzy Gillespie's trumpet and a gown that Peggy Lee wore when she sang "Fever" — will go on the auction block next month.

"It's the first truly major auction focusing on jazz," Arlan Ertzinger, president of Guernsey's, which is holding the Feb. 20 auction, said Tuesday.

The auction will take place at the Time Warner Center in Manhattan, the new home of Jazz at Lincoln Center, and buyers can bid by telephone, through the online auction site eBay or in person.

Smells like a motorcycle

What would a fragrance inspired by the Discovery Channel's "American Chopper" smell like? Not like the gasoline or burned rubber you may smell at Orange County Choppers, where the show's father-and-son team build custom-made motorcycles for upward of \$100,000, according to Michael Malcom, a fragrance developer and marketer from Manitou Springs, Colo.

Malcom's product line, Full Throttle, smells like a mix of essences of anise, mint, black licorice, white pepper and hints of suede and cashmere.

He pitched the idea to agents of "American Chopper" stars Paul Teutul and his son, Paul Jr., after watching the program last January. Full Throttle is based on fragrances favored by Paul Jr.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

HEARING "WHITE NOISE"

Michael Keaton returns in new paranormal thriller

By TERRY ARMOUR

Chicago Tribune

Michael Keaton is seated in the lobby restaurant of Chicago's Peninsula Hotel, not far from a table of bantering elderly women.

"What would you do if you found out that one of these ladies sitting over there was carrying for the Colombian drug cartel?" the actor quips with his trademark leer as he gestures over there.

One of the women notices Keaton, pointing the actor out to the others at her table. But they appear to be having a hard time figuring out exactly who he is. This fact isn't lost on Keaton, who after a string of big-screen hits, including "Night Shift," "Mr. Mom," "Beetlejuice" and the first two "Batman" films, has kept a low profile in Hollywood since 1998's "Jack Frost."

"I didn't check out, exactly," Keaton said during a recent interview. "That sounds too weird."

Was it a sabbatical? "Even that sounds too weird," the actor said as he took a sip of wine.

"I actually wish the story was more interesting but I'm ridiculously honest: I just needed a break."

The break is over for the 53-year-old Keaton, who stars in the new paranormal thriller "White Noise," about an architect who communicates with his dead wife through Electronic Voice Phenomenon (EVP). The movie is now playing in the States.

In the coming months, Keaton also stars in "Game 6," about a playwright who skips opening night to watch Game 6

of the 1986 World Series between the Boston Red Sox and New York Mets, and "Herbie: Fully Loaded," the latest adventure of the little white Volkswagen.

Q. Did you make a conscious effort in your career to mix up your roles? After a couple of successful comedies, you took a chance on the drama "Clean and Sober," which led to "Batman."

A. I really thought that was my job when I started doing this — to try different things. Also, I have a low — low, low, low — boredom threshold. I just thought, "I've got to keep myself interested; otherwise, I don't really care to do this."

I guess that's why I don't work a lot. I kind of disappeared there for a minute.

Q. Talk about that.

A. Somebody said, "Man, you haven't done anything for a long time; we haven't heard from you in a while." The truth is, it's kind of consistent with me. I don't want to call it unpredictability — that sounds too self-conscious to me. Like when people say, "You're kind of a renegade, aren't you?"

Once you start saying, "I'm a renegade, man," then you're full of crap. If you

have to say you're a renegade, then you're not a renegade.

Q. So why did you disappear?

A. (Laughs) I guess I could say, "You know, man, I went to this cabin and found myself," but I didn't do anything like that. It's really quite simple: I had a European girlfriend. I love Europe, I spent time in Europe. I built a couple of houses. I ranched. I fished in South America. I just lived life.

Q. Did you need to get away from the business or did the roles stop coming your way?

A. The truth is that it was 70-30 — 70 percent of, "I don't want to do that; I'm never going to do that again. I'm too old now to play that without looking stupid; I know other guys that can do that one better than I can; I've already done that."

The other 30 percent was that I wanted a nice, juicy role and I didn't get offered it because some guy's movie made \$100 million. That's how it works. That guy is getting it before I am because the studio is saying, "I've got to make a profit." It's a business, dude. I know I'm not going to get certain things, but I'm totally cool with how I do things. Hell, I may disappear again.

Q. So you never became disenchanted with the movie business?

A. (The movie) industry is a strip mall and I figured that out a long time ago.

The studio has to have an anchor store in the mall, like the Nordstrom's, and that's your "Spider-Man." Then there are the other stores, your independents. Movies are a corporate business. That's the reality and I live in that reality.

Q. It's been reported that you turned down about \$35 million to do a third "Batman" movie.

A. I dug the idea of doing another one and I was willing to say, "Let's just take this and work with it." But they were adamant about where they wanted to go with the script. I respected that and just said, "I'm out."

Q. At the time of the first "Batman" movie, some critics thought you were miscast in the role. Are you glad you took the chance?

A. Oh yeah, you know why? I was Batman! There's no getting around it now. Not too many guys can say that.

Q. Now that you've reached 50, what kind of roles are you being offered?

A. (Laughs) I've been in this weird zone. Believe it or not, somewhere there's a version of the "Night Shift" guy — what's that guy doing now? I still know how to play that guy because he's a part of me. But do I want to? Sadly, I have to say goodbye to certain things, but there are still certain things I can do.



RRT

Fatal fall for senior

CA SAN FRANCISCO — A 91-year-old man died after falling off a tour boat into the San Francisco Bay.

Searchers combed the bay for more than six hours before a Coast Guard helicopter spotted the body of Man Yai Yu, authorities said.

Yu, of San Francisco, had been among seven passengers on the Harbor Queen for a one-hour trip.

No sign of snowshoer

CO MESA — Authorities have called off the search for a snowshoer missing since storms dropped several feet of snow on the 10,500-foot-high Grand Mesa, a Mesa County sheriff's spokeswoman said.

Dan Walker, 54, was last seen after separating from his wife and daughter to seek help after they got lost on a backcountry outing. Searchers had found Dan Walker's ski poles earlier in the week and an erratic trail leading away from them, but they found no trace of him.

The search area that we have others is closely defined," sheriff's spokeswoman Susan McBurney said. "The sheriff's office strongly believes that if Daniel was in that area, we would have been able to find him."

Walker's wife, Deborah, and the couple's 18-year-old daughter, Camille, were rescued, along with their dog. They had taken shelter under a tree their first night, and then dug a snow cave for the second night.

Gummen crash party

FL HIALEAH — Two gummen crashed a girl's 15th birthday party, shooting two teenagers to death and injuring another in a back yard crowded with revelers, police said.

One suspect was in custody. The men apparently had a previous dispute with some of the party-goers, Hialeah police spokesman Jose Caragol said. When the two showed up at the party, some of the revelers threw beer bottles at them to force them to leave.

Alvaro Trana, 19, died at the scene, while another teen died at a hospital. The other teen's name was withheld while police were trying to contact his family. Jonathan Aleman, 17, was hit by a bullet but was expected to recover fully, Caragol said.

Tour van stolen

HI HONOLULU — A man stole a tour van left idling at a beach park with four people inside, but eventually let the four go unharmed, police said.

The van had been left running at Kahe Point Beach Park in Oahu while the driver and three tourists stepped out to admire the view, police said.

Anthony Lopez of Colorado said he saw three girls were dozing in the van when a man slid into the driver's seat and sped out of the parking lot. The man agreed to free them after Lopez begged him to let them go.

He threatened me with the knife and tried to get me to leave the girls and I just pled with him to please let me have the girls,"



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Lopez said.

Lopez said the girls were getting out when a second man pulled up in a blue sedan and shoved him into the bushes. The car then followed the van up a highway.

Police recovered the van, which had been abandoned, but said the victims' belongings were stolen.

African elephant dies

IL CHICAGO — The oldest African elephant in the United States has died at the Lincoln Park Zoo at the age of 55, officials said. Zoo keepers found the 9,000-pound female elephant named Peaches sprawled on the floor of an indoor enclosure. The elephant's eyes weren't focused and she was breathing with difficulty, zoo officials said.

Veterinarians could not get her back on her feet and euthanized her hours later.

Kelly McGrath, a zoo spokeswoman, said the median life expectancy for African elephants in the wild is thought to be around 42. The zoo acquired Peaches and two other African elephants, Taima and Wanki, from the San Diego Zoo in 2003.

Rape charges for women

MA NORTHAMPTON — Two women, including a Smith College student, pleaded innocent to charges they raped and handcuffed another female student and



Church in flames

Boston firefighters spray water on the remains of the First Baptist Church in Boston's Jamaica Plain section. The church, which was built in 1859, was badly damaged in a 1975 arson fire but had been rebuilt. The cause of the blaze was under investigation.

slashed her with knives.

Rachel Ann Klobertanz, 22, and Augusta Claire Kendall, 22, were ordered held on \$2,500 cash bail at their arraignment in Northampton District Court. Both were charged with two counts of aggravated rape, three counts of assault and battery, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon and aggravated assault and battery.

Prosecutor Susan Loehn said the three women first met at a downtown Northampton bar. They then went back to Klobertanz and Kendall's apartment, where they drank several bottles of champagne and engaged in sex that began as consensual but ended as rape, Loehn said.

Loehn said it was not the first time women have been charged with rape in Northampton, but the case was unusual because of the level of violence involved.

Damaged barges

OH REEDSVILLE — Barge traffic on a 42-mile stretch of the Ohio River was curtailed and businesses prepared for the lowest water levels since the late 1800s as salvage crews worked to remove twisted barges from control gates at the Bellevue Lock and Dam.

The barges are keeping the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers from closing all eight gates, which control the amount of water in an irrigation pool from Bellevue to the Willow Island Lock and Dam above Parkersburg, W.Va.

The barges were among nine loaded coal barges that broke loose after the vessel Jon J. Strong locked through the dam on Jan. 6 during flooding along the river.

ATV defect settlement

DC WASHINGTON — Minnesota-based Polaris Industries Inc. has agreed to pay nearly \$1 million to settle allegations it blatantly reported defects and hazards on some of its all-terrain vehicles, the first such penalty involving ATVs, the government announced.

The defects were linked to dozens of accidents and at least 25 injuries from December 1998 to February 2001, including burns, torn muscles, scrapes and bruises, the Consumer Product Safety Commission said.

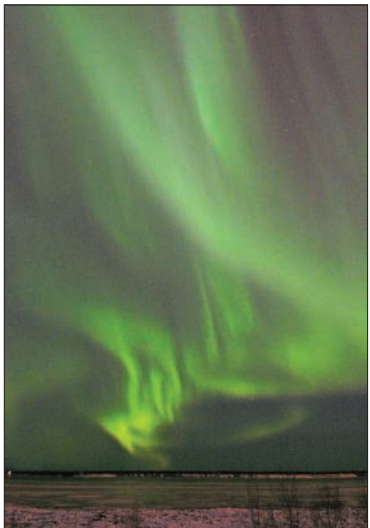
Hall of Fame sued again

PA SHARON — A businessman who helped start the Vocal Group Hall of Fame has filed his third lawsuit in less than a month against the foundation and chief executive now in charge.

The latest suit filed by James E. Winner Jr. seeks the return of assets and memorabilia worth more than \$150,000 that Winner contends were removed from the museum.

The museum, about 60 miles northwest of Pittsburgh, closed its doors last year amid financial troubles and canceled its 2004 inductions.

Winner, who owns the company that makes The Chet vehicle anti-theft device, has sued the hall and its foundation for repayment of a \$10,000 loan and claims he is owed \$50,000 in back taxes.



Northern lights

The aurora borealis appears over upper Cook Inlet in Anchorage, Alaska.



What do you want?

A bear trying to hibernate in a tree during sub-zero temperatures caught the eye of Peshigo, Wis., residents who kept the large cub away from the bear may have been confused or kicked out of its den by its mother.



Snow creations

lage in Kalispell, Mont.

Alex Lloyd creates a snow angel while her brothers and sisters build a snowman vil-



Overcrowding

Students from St. Louis University form a sled train as they move down the icy slope of St. Louis' Art Hill in Forest Park.



Such a nag

A male Canada goose is a constant companion for a goat on a farm owned by Poldi and Horst Schmitt in Napa, Calif. The goose arrived in 2002 and now lives with the goat herd. The goose adopted the female goat, keeping all other goats, except her offspring, away from her.



Icy covering

Iceicles created by extremely cold temperatures give a new look to a fountain at a North Wales, Pa., private residence.



Alone on the path

Keather Krajic walks along the Centennial Trail on her way to class at North Idaho College in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

Hockey dad charged

MA BOSTON — A Swampscott man already banned from youth hockey games will face a criminal charge next month for allegedly grabbing, shaking and cursing at his son's 8-year-old teammate.

Jordan Waldman, 51, appeared in Peabody District Court but waived his right to a hearing with the clerk magistrate, who was trying to determine if a criminal charge would be filed in the case.

His decision not to tell his side of the story resulted in the clerk magistrate charging Waldman with assault and battery, for which Waldman will be arraigned on Feb. 25.

Waldman allegedly grabbed 8-year-old Cameron Byrne by the shirt, yanked him forward, and yelled at him after the boy and Waldman's son had been in an on-ice shoving match on Dec. 26. The boy reportedly was uninjured.

Waste deal questioned

VA RICHMOND — An environmental group is asking a court to throw out a confidential deal in which a waste company agreed to pay Virginia \$1 for each ton of trash it barged into the state.

In the deal, state officials also agreed to push for a method favored by Waste Management Inc. of testing huge waste containers to determine whether they are watertight. The test calls for filling a container with 2 feet of water and checking for leaks, but the James River Association favored a more stringent air-pressure test.

The association said the agreement, which was reached in December 2002 to settle a lawsuit, made a sham out of the public-comment period required before the rules were adopted.

During a public hearing in the spring of 2003, many people, unaware of the deal already reached, called for a \$5-to-\$10 fee and a tougher test.

Can't smoke and golf?

CA SAN FRANCISCO — A proposed new law that would ban smoking in recreation areas regulated by the city may include public golf courses.

The ordinance, drafted by Supervisor Michela Aloto-Pier, originally was written to ban "inhaling, exhaling, burning or carrying any lighted smoking equipment for tobacco or any other weed or plant" in all outdoor recreation areas, including parks, gardens, piers and playing fields.

It was later amended to exempt golf courses, because course operators fear losing revenue and forfeiting their competitive edge in luring tournaments to town.

But Supervisor Chris Daly said he was considering amending the ban when it reaches the board on Jan. 25 to include golf courses. "It doesn't seem like there is a good policy argument to exclude golf courses for fiscal reasons," he said.

Gun bill reintroduced

RI PROVIDENCE — Democratic state Rep. Joanne Giamini reintroduced a bill that would require people subject to domestic violence restraining orders to turn in their guns to police or sell them to licensed gun dealers. An identical proposal died in a Senate committee last year.

New base terminal

GA FORT BENNING — Fort Benning has opened a new 75,000-square-foot airport terminal. Instead of taking a three-hour bus ride to Warner Robins Air Force Base to board a plane, soldiers now can wait comfortably in the \$11.7 million facility before flying out at Fort Benning's Lawson Army Airfield. The new facility can hold up to 1,500 troops.

Reprieve for sick inmate

TX DALLAS — An elderly man who served more than 40 years in prison on a long conviction has received a medical reprieve from a nearly three-decade-old arrest warrant.

Robert Carroll Coney, 76, of Dallas, was released in August after his 1962 Angelina County robbery conviction was ruled a case of mistaken identity.

He was arrested in December on a 1976 warrant accusing him of escaping from a Georgia prison. He had been serving an eight- to 10-year sentence in Georgia for forging checks.

Coney suffers from diabetes, blindness and a heart condition. He will remain under supervised restrictions, similar to those on parole.

Water system expansion

OH PUT-IN-BAY — A Lake Erie resort island where 1,400 visitors came to win a gastrointestinal illness in June plans to expand its water system to all businesses on the island.

State health officials believe the illnesses in South Bass Island were caused by malfunctioning septic systems that contaminated more than 40 private wells that served some of the island's inns, wineries and bars.

The illnesses were a blow to tourism on the island, which draws about 500,000 annually.

The \$2.5 million expansion of the water system in Put-In-Bay, the island's village, should take to three years, said village administrator David Gruet. The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency must approve the plan.

Plea in brothel case

ME PORTLAND — A former bookkeeper for a Kittery health club alleged to be a brothel has pleaded guilty to conspiracy to launder more than \$3 million for the club.

Mary Ann Manzoli, 64, of Lynnfield, Mass., is the widow of one of the former owners of the Kittery Health Club, also known as the Danish Health Club.

She now faces up to 10 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine. A sentencing date has not been scheduled.

Federal authorities allege that the club, which advertised itself as a massage parlor, served for 20 years as a place where male customers paid to have sex with women.

Court documents say Manzoli regularly wrote paychecks for the club's managers and paid bills for utilities, laundry and heating oil. She also authorized payments for advertisements in the adult entertainment section of the Boston Phoenix, and other magazines distributed in strip clubs and adult bookstores, court records show.

Stories and photos from wire services



EUROPEAN FORECAST

Benelux: Mostly cloudy with isolated rain showers. Highs in the lower to mid-50s. Saturday's lows in the mid-30s.

Britain, Ireland: Mostly cloudy with rain in the west. Highs in the mid-40s to lower 50s. Saturday's lows in the upper 20s to mid-30s.

Croatia and Bosnia: Mostly cloudy with rain showers. Highs in the lower 40s. Saturday's lows in the upper 20s.

France: Mostly cloudy with isolated rain showers. Highs in the lower 40s. Saturday's lows in the mid-30s.

Northern Germany: Cloudy with rain, snow, and gusty winds. Highs in the upper 30s to mid-40s. Saturday's lows in the upper 20s.

Southern Germany: Cloudy with rain and gusty winds. Highs in the mid-40s. Saturday's lows in the mid-20s to lower 30s.

Hungary: Mostly cloudy with rain showers. Highs in the mid-30s. Saturday's lows in the lower 20s.

Northern Italy: Mostly cloudy. Highs in the mid-40s to lower 50s. Saturday's lows in the lower 30s.

Southern Italy: Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 50s to lower 60s. Saturday's lows in the upper 30s to lower 40s.

Kosovo: Cloudy with Saturday morning snow. Highs in the lower 40s. Saturday's lows in the lower 20s.

Norway: Cloudy with rain, snow, and gusty winds. Highs in the 30s. Saturday's lows in the mid-teens to lower 20s.

Portugal, Spain: Sunny. Highs in the mid-50s to mid-60s. Saturday's lows in the mid-30s to lower 40s.

Turkey: Isolated snow showers inland with highs in the mid 30s and Saturday lows in the mid 20s. Mostly cloudy with isolated rain showers on the coasts. Highs in the lower to mid-50s. Saturday's lows in the upper 30s to lower 40s.

KEY: Sunny, Partly Cloudy, Mostly Cloudy, Cloudy, Showers, Tornadoes, Rain, Rainbow, Snow

AFRICA

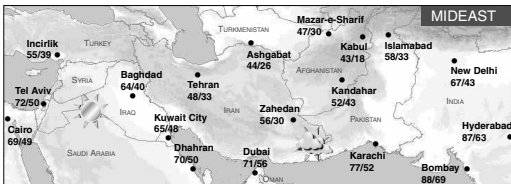
	HI	LO		HI	LO
Cape Town	78	65	Mogadishu	80	78
Dakar	76	65	Nairobi	82	56
Freetown	86	70	Rabat	63	39
Windhoek	89	72	Tripoli	60	46

THE WORLD

	HI	LO		HI	LO
Amsterdam	41	34	Manila	85	75
Batavia	68	50	Mexico City	70	45
Beijing	42	21	Montreal	12	17
Bombay	89	54	Riyadh	68	32
Buenos Aires	65	58	Rio de Janeiro	89	68
Buenos Aires	87	71	Sao Paulo	83	17
Calcutta	85	58	Sofia	45	18
Calcutta	85	58	Sydney	84	69
Hong Kong	59	45	Tokyo	47	36

TODAY'S STATESIDE OUTLOOK

	HI	LO		HI	LO
Alaska	74	43	Idaho	50	30
Alaska	19	12	Idaho	50	30
Alaska	19	12	Idaho	50	30
Alaska	19	12	Idaho	50	30
Alaska	19	12	Idaho	50	30
Alaska	19	12	Idaho	50	30
Alaska	19	12	Idaho	50	30
Alaska	19	12	Idaho	50	30
Alaska	19	12	Idaho	50	30
Alaska	19	12	Idaho	50	30



For current weather watches, warnings, and 5-day forecasts go to the USAF Operational Weather Squadron home page at <https://www.sembach.af.mil> or <https://www.public.sembach.af.mil>

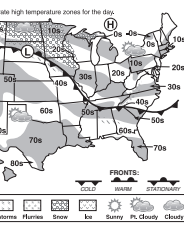
SUN & MOON

	Today	Tomorrow
Sunrise (Baghdad)	7:05AM	7:06AM
Sunrise (Frankfurt)	8:14AM	8:13AM
Sunset (Frankfurt)	5:03PM	5:04PM

Full moon 25 Jan 05, Last obs 2 Feb 05, New moon 8 Feb 05, First obs 16 Feb 05

THE UNITED STATES

As of noon, Eastern U.S. time



Scheduled to ETS or PCS?

Check our Relocation Guide every Saturday to find Realtors at your new station.

STARS AND STRIPES

Your HomeTown Newspaper

OPINION

Better guidance needed on immigration

Chicago Tribune

You won't find many travel guides that warn about the dangers of arduous treks through the desert, excessive exhaustion, difficulty walking and reasoning, hallucinations and mirages, or to mention the possibility of smugglers abandoning you in the middle of nowhere, or the local police coming after you.

No, the "Guide for the Mexican Migrant" is not an Arizona tourist book. Published by the Mexican government, it is a compilation of survival tips for Mexicans who are contemplating illegally crossing the border into the United States.

The 32-page pamphlet, with comic-book-like illustrations and a press run of about 1.5 million, has created a furor among American anti-immigration groups and some elected officials, who view it as part of a Mexican strategy to aid and abet illegal immigration.

It's really nothing of the sort. Except for a few questionable tips, the booklet is filled with graphic warnings about the life-threatening risks of entering the United States illegally.

But Mexico deserves criticism for its clumsiness and ineffectiveness to U.S. public opinion and immigration policies. Just as President Bush is laboring to push the immigration-reform way forward, the pamphlet effectively shoots out one of its tires. It's timing and worse content are troubling.

Those who take the time to read it will find the guide is filled with sensible advice,

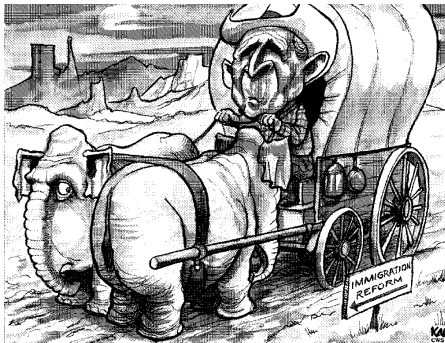
such as to get a Mexican passport and an American visa before entering the States. Others have compared it to a risk-reduction strategy: About 400 Mexicans died in 2003 trying to enter the States. The flow of illegal immigrants from Mexico is not about to ebb, so it's compassionate and sensible to use education to reduce the number of deaths.

Indeed, the booklet points out everything that can go wrong for illegal immigrants: smugglers, drownings, death in the desert. It counsels never to use false identification or names, lie to the U.S. border patrol, carry any weapons or try to flee if arrested.

It gets close, though, to offering tips on how to evade U.S. law enforcement — don't give loud parties, the neighbors might call the cops — that may seem like an intrusion in our affairs by a foreign government.

But the guide's most glaring flaw is political. When he began his first term, Bush promised to work with Mexican President Vicente Fox to overhaul American immigration. That euphoria died after Sept. 11 but has been rekindled by Bush as one of his top priorities as he begins his second term. The centerpiece of his plan is a guest-worker program that would be an alternative to the current illegal immigration debate.

Opposition to such plans is bubbling among members of Congress who sense little public appetite for anything that looks, sounds or smells like amnesty for undocumented immigrants. There are a few Republicans in Congress — Sen. John McCain and Reps. Jeff Flake and Jim Kolbe, all from Arizona — who are pushing for sound immigration reform, but they are the exception.



tion reform, but they are the exception.

At this juncture, Bush could have used an assist, a gesture of cooperation, from the Mexican government. Instead he got a pamphlet that may be well-meaning, but sends all the wrong signals to the American public.

A far more sensible move for Mexico would be to beef up border patrols to bust

the growing network of smugglers who send many illegal immigrants to their deaths.

One of the pamphlet's tips to immigrants is to avoid throwing rocks at U.S. border patrol cars. The Mexican government ought to heed that advice and avoid pelting an American president who is laboring to resolve the plight of undocumented immigrants.

Fifty years ago, Nautilus seized a golden opportunity

BY PETER BROOKES

Imagine the thoughts going through the minds of the captain and crew of the world's first nuclear-powered submarine, USS Nautilus, when it put to sea for the very first time — 50 years ago this week.

No soldiers did they have to take a new submarine to sea, but also they had to control the splitting of the atom in a small space above a submerged submarine in constant danger from the nuclear fission's tremendous heat and life-threatening radiation.

So it's likely that Nautilus' crew didn't give much thought to the fact that they were ushering in the atomic age's next phase — and altering naval warfare forever — when they cast off their lines and flashed the now-historic message, "Underway On Nuclear Power."

Prior to Nautilus, submarines were powered by a dangerous combination of batteries (for submerged operations) and diesel engines (for surface operations and recharging the batteries). Because of noxious fumes, the diesel engines could only run while the subs were on (or near) the sea's surface, making them vulnerable to the enemy.

Naval nuclear power, under the leadership of Adm. Hyman Rickover, ended all that. Nautilus was able to remain submerged for months without surfacing. The only thing limiting Nautilus' undersea endurance was the crew's sanity and food supply.

Over the next several years, Nautilus shattered all submerged speed and distance records. For instance, in 1958, Nautilus defeated Pearl Harbor's top secret orders to conduct "Operation Sunshine."

A few weeks later, with 116 men aboard, Nautilus proclaimed another record when it

broadcast: "Nautilus 90 North." Nautilus had reached the freezing waters of the geographic North Pole.

Not long after, followed by generations of nuclear submarines and, eventually, surface ships. Today, 11 of the Navy's 13 aircraft carriers are nuclear-powered.

Perhaps more important than man's harnessing of the atom to produce energy was the tectonic shift in warfare that came with Nautilus. Soviet spies could report the take-off of SAC nuclear bombers from their bases. And overhead satellites could monitor land-based ICBM sites. But now the United States would soon be able to send ballistic-missile nuclear submarines to sea, where they could remain undetected by the enemy for months at a time. This was real strategic deterrence, and no doubt had a hand in preventing a nuclear war between the United States and the Soviet Union.

But some now say that the submarine is a Cold War relic. The Soviet Union is gone and the "Hunt for Red October" is over. Not so.

The Navy's 14 nuclear-powered ballis-

tic-missile submarines, each outfitted with 24 Trident nuclear-tipped ICBMs, continue to provide the United States with our strategic nuclear-strike and deterrent capability.

Meanwhile, nuclear subs provide the stealth and firepower needed in today's 24/7 battlespace. In fact, the Navy's 53 nuclear-powered attack submarines are some of our best spies. Operating close to shore, intelligence gathered by subs can provide timely information about the enemy's intentions.

Nautilus was decommissioned in 1980 after 25 years of service, logging just 500,000 miles. Today, nuclear-powered warships have safely steamed more than 119 million miles — equal to nearly 5,000 trips around the world.

The Navy itself operates 103 nuclear reactors — equaling the number of civilian commercial nuclear reactors in the United States — and its nuclear-safety record has been exemplary. Nuclear power enhances our Navy's ability to sail quickly to trouble spots, and arrive ready for action. The Navy's 82 nuclear-powered warships are the

mainstay of our forward presence and power projection strategy across the globe.

But perhaps most important, Nautilus is a testimony to the American pioneering spirit and boundless technical ingenuity. It should remind Americans of the importance of the endless pursuit of excellence and innovation — not to mention the tremendous professionalism and bravery of U.S. servicemen and -women past and present.

Such service is not without risk. The recent collision of the nuclear attack submarine USS San Francisco with an unplotted undersea mountain in the western Pacific near Guam is a stark reminder of the dangers of the U.S. Navy's "silent service." But submarine duty remains essential to America's security in these dangerous times.

So, to our brave submariners on this important anniversary: Run silent, run deep — and thanks for a job well done.

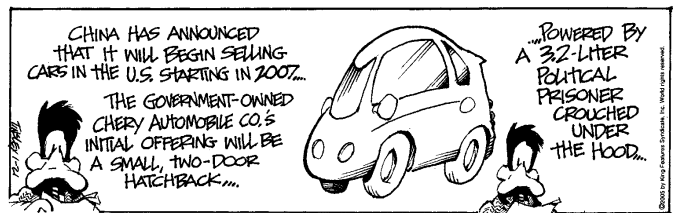
Peter Brookes is a commander with the Navy Reserve. He is a Naval Academy graduate and a former EP-3 pilot. He is also a senior fellow with The Heritage Foundation, a Washington-based think tank.



Brookes

Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY



Horoscope

The Gemini moon rules the early and most productive hours of the day. Do all you can before the moon goes void in the afternoon. Suddenly, a logy feeling takes hold, and if you can afford to take a nap, this may be the most effective use of a few hours. Aquari-inspired dreams are vividly fantastic. Share subliminal insights with friends.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

JANUARY 21. Your genius expands this year. Dedicate yourself to following your interests through the rest of the winter. You're attractive when engaged in forward motion on a re-wiring project. Love bows you over in February. You'll be making a key life-changing decision in April. Travel in June or October. Love signs are Virgo and Aquarius.

ARIES (March 21-April 19).

Your instinct for making a buck is well honed. Concern yourself with the stuff from which fortunes are made — profits, products and services brought to the marketplace. Pleasant surprises come tonight.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20).

Check in often with your mirror. You'll benefit from a face-to-face pep talk between you and you. It's not vain! Make the distinction between self-consciousness and self-awareness.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21).

Do whatever it takes to feel vital and a part of things. Others may reveal secrets, and you are proud to keep it on the lowdown. This does take some doing, though, since what you learn is so juicy.

CANCER (June 22-July 22).

You're still searching for that person who is really on your wavelength. A sassy attitude attracts like — so emotive! In the meantime, try and relate to those around you. Old friends offer new opportunities.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Shrewd strategies are needed to compete in your current work environment.

Know your opponent. A Nigerian proverb applies: "When the mouse laughs at the cat, there is a hole nearby."

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).

Childish energy runs you — it's kind of charming. You could even develop a crush. Whatever you do, don't tell lies. They will quickly envelop you like a sticky spider web.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).

If today had a soundtrack, it would include the comical plucking of a banjo. The music gets faster and faster, and you dance frantically in an effort to keep time. Laugh about it, and you're brilliant.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).

Your money spirit lights up with killer ideas and lots of motivation. It's like you're in Economics 101 and the rest of the class is still playing with crayons. Act on your inspiration immediately.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).

Environmental issues shape your progress. Probably your work setup is still not conducive to maximum output. A Virgo or Aquarius can help. Make changes, and production will soar.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).

Relationships require so much practical attention that you may channel your inner Tina Turner, crying: "What's love got to do with it?" Remedy the situation by injecting some old-fashioned romance into the equation.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).

Interpersonal skills are hot. Getting people to do the right thing is easy for you — everyone seems to want to please you. You're not being graded in a relationship, but if you were, you'd get an "A."

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).

It's appealing to tangle with the authority figure. Flawing your inner teen is thrilling and perhaps foolish, but you can't help yourself. Could it be your real issue is with your father?

Creators Syndicate

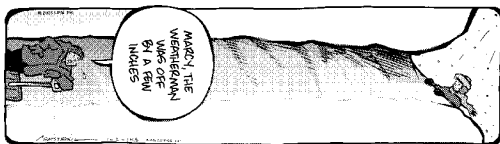
Holiday Mathis



Calvin and Hobbes



Jump Start



Zits



Cathy



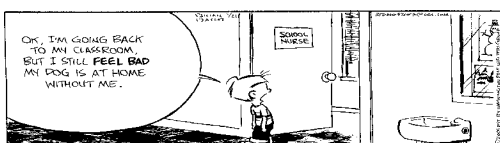
Hi and Lois



Beetle Bailey



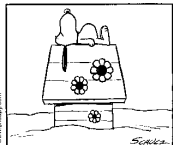
Red and Rover



Better or Worse



Peanuts



Fotrot



B.C.



Baby Blues



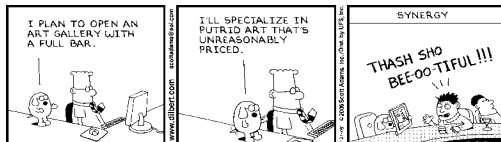
Spider Man



Blondie



Dilbert



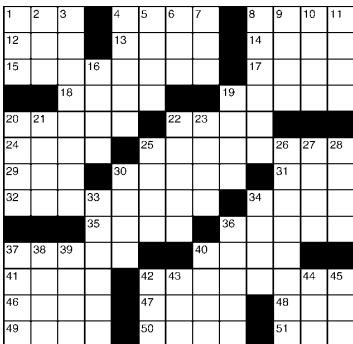
Hagar



Garfield



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



Across

- 1 Upper-crust newbie
4 Mexican peninsula, for short
8 Binges
12 Pub order
13 Word often following "once"
14 Pennsylvania port
15 Muezzins' towers
17 Exhaust
18 Hoodoo
19 Church rendition
22 Nail technician's need
24 Baserunner's goal
25 The small stuff
29 Blackbird
30 Out of — (grouchy)
31 Coll. transcript stat
32 Medieval musicmaker
34 Individuals
35 Blatant
36 Author Cleveland
37 Saunter
40 Hoosegow
41 Not up yet
42 Theus's prey
46 Paddock papa
47 MP's quarry
48 FDR's "Blue Eagle"
49 Ollie's pal
50 Part of a Batman outfit

Down

- 1 TVA structure
2 Inventor Whitney
3 Harrison or Netanyahu
4 Beyond well-done
5 Pinnacle
6 Mark in the margin
7 Reply (Abbr.)
8 Socialists' group
9 Pavarotti presentation
10 "—, Interrupted"
11 Appear
16 Yorkshire river
19 Asset
20 Counterfeit
21 Writer Morrison
22 Canned
23 Worldwide (Abbr.)
25 Early period
26 Unknown
27 Rich Little, e.g.
28 Last writeup
30 Command to Rover
33 Beowulf's home
34 Leave out
36 Coral formation
37 Church service
38 Last writeup
39 Antitoxins
40 Frosty's DNA?
42 What the banker in "Penny Lane" never wears
43 — Jima
44 Spoonbender
45 Snoop Dogg's genre

Answer to Previous Puzzle



1-21

CRYPTOQUIP

L NYB GLA QKZHHOA L
KLYMAPB AOWOPNOMW
JDMWLZMOP DM WGO IGOKQ.

1 D Z WYPMOA WGO WZAO.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF I PURCHASED A COW AT MARKET, I SUPPOSE I WOULD MILK IT FOR ALL IT'S WORTH.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: O equals E

Women: Heed these warning signs

Dear Abby: My brother-in-law, "Fred," is on his fifth marriage. We know it won't be his last. Every time he is courted by his next unsuspecting wife, my husband and I wish we could tell his new fiancée what we know about Fred, but of course, we can't. And they never ask.

The questions we wish these nice women would ask: (1) Ask how many times he has been married. Multiple previous marriages are a big red flag. Don't think you are different from the others. You're not.

(2) If you wonder how he affords the expensive wines, the five-star restaurants and the trips to Europe on the salary that someone in his line of work earns — the answer is he can't afford it.

(3) If he wants to buy a house with you and asks you to buy it

in your name alone, then add his name after you obtain a loan, run for the nearest exit. His credit is bad.

(4) "Went to" a college and "graduated from" a college are two different things. What a shame that someone would even lie about that.

(5) If he hasn't been able to hold a job because he was "smarter than" every boss he ever had, don't count on having his income in your budget.

(6) Are you much younger than he is? Does he try to control your every move? (He likes the young ones because he can no longer fool the older, wiser ladies.)

(7) Have you ever wondered why nothing is his fault? The divorces? The bankruptcies? Think again!

Dear Abby



longer fool the older, wiser ladies.)

Brother-in-law must pitch in at home

Dear Annie: My brother-in-law, "Matt," moved in with us a year ago, after splitting with his wife. Since then, his divorce has been finalized and he has his two kids here every other weekend. My house is not big, and although it gets quite crowded during these weekends, we manage. Matt has been a big help watching our children on the nights that my husband and I work. In exchange, we do not charge him rent or any part of the utilities. Matt gives us some money to cover his grocery bills.

Here is what's getting to me. Matt seems to have a problem putting silverware in the dishwasher. He doesn't pick up anything off the floor that doesn't belong to him. Most nights when I come home from work, my living room is trashed. Matt's room is a mess, and all he does is sit at the computer playing games or watch TV.

What can I do without offending him?

— The Sister-in-Law

Annie's Mailbox



Dear Sister-in-Law: You are doing Matt a tremendous favor by allowing him to live in your home, rent-free. Don't worry about offending him. Tell Matt, with a smile, that he now is a full-fledged member of your immediate family and you expect him to do his share around the house. Make a list of chores for everyone, and insist that each person follow it. Remind them when necessary.

Dear Annie: My husband and I struggled for several years while trying to conceive a child. After many visits to fertility specialists, we decided to adopt a wonderful daughter. Shortly after she became part of our family, I miraculously became pregnant. Our son was born a year later, and another daughter three years after that. We feel blessed. Our oldest daughter has different coloring than the rest of our family. Perfect strangers are rude

enough to comment on this fact. One woman said, "That one is definitely the mailman's child." Today, an elderly man asked my daughter, now 6, "What happened to your hair?"

Although we have always talked openly about her adoption, I'm not sure my daughter has truly grasped the meaning of all these comments. I thought printing this in your column may help people realize such comments are hurtful to children who already may feel different.

— Loving Mom in Connecticut

Dear Mom: Some people don't put their brains into gear before inserting their foot in their mouths, but they mean no harm. The correct response to such rude, nonoffensive-type questions is, "Thank you. We think she's simply beautiful." Then smile and walk away.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

Creators Syndicate

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

WEFER

YEVAH

DIYSTUR

YIFFEG

www.jumble.com

Answer:

“ ”

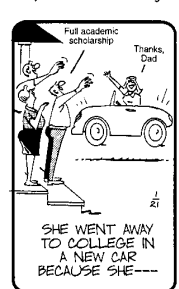
Yesterday's

Jumbles: NERVY QUEEN REFUGE DAMASK

Answer: What she told the baker to do on her birthday cake — "FUDGE" THE YEARS

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

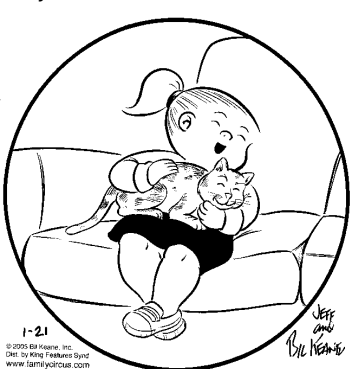
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion



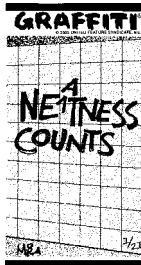
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Family Circus



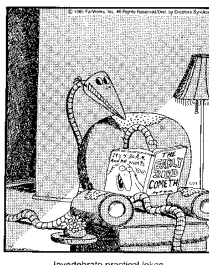
"Kittycat couldn't be nicer. She's purrfect!"



Dennis the Menace



The Far Side



Non Sequitur



STRIPE SERVICE DIRECTORY



your daily guide to navigating the European Business Market

FOR INFORMATION ON GROWING YOUR BUSINESS WITH THE SERVICE DIRECTORY

CONTACT SEAN ADAMS AT CIV: 06155-601203 or DSL: 349-8203

or EMAIL: adams@mail.estripes.osd.mil

Attorneys 886

FSL Attorney Joe Maiss
Full Service Law firm
US & German Divorces
Employment & Personal Injury
Tax, Probate, Tenants/Landlord Disputes
email: maiss@hd-law.de
Office: Heidelberg Tel: 06221-727-9595

Guy L. Womack

Worldwide Court-Martial Defense
www.GuyWomack.com
e-mail: GuyWomack@USA.net
Phone: (713) 224-8815

LAW OFFICES JOSEPH K. KELSO

U.S. Attorney at Law
Specializing since 1960 in U.S. Federal
Employment Law, Administrative Boards,
Personal Injury and Medical Malpractice, Tort
Claims, International Contracts and
Immigration Law.
Darmstadt/Landshut 181, 60568 Frankfurt am Main
Tel: (06180) 79 79 79 Fax: (06180) 79 96 32

GERMAN LAW FIRM

Frankfurt
Kornstaedt Salmen
International Family Law
Malpractice, Car Accidents
Phone: 06181-2102-24
E-mail: salmen@kornstaedt-online.de

www.court-martial-defense.com

What you VICE King 25 years ago
David Court Martial defense, 2000 members at Court-Martial
Law Offices David Court
Phone: (0618) 30 10 72 Fax: (0618) 30 12 68
David Court Martial defense, 2000 members at Court-Martial

Dental 902

**BOTH OF THESE PEOPLE ARE
STRATEGIZING YOUR TESTS!**
(AS AN ORTHODONTIST)
CALL TODAY 0618-00-BRACES (272237)
Weekend & Evening Appointments Available
Most Fees Significantly Less Than US Military
Health Plan Rates. The US Coast Guard
Richard Biles, DDS - Certified Orthodontist
Former USMC - University of Maryland

Internet Services 600

Pisnet
DSL and Cable service now
in Italy and Germany
Call us: 06221-70000
Fax us: 06221-70000
E-mail: info@pisnet.com
Web: www.pisnet.com
• DSL FLAT RATE
• SAME DAY ACTIVATION
• ALL SERVICES AND
• SUPPORT IN ENGLISH

INTERNET ACCESS

www.greenet.de
DSL Flat Rate €29.90/mo.
Unlimited Time & Volume or
Internet Dial Up Connection
Phone: 06731-2248

STANDARD ISSUE MEETS A NEW STANDARD

STARS AND STRIPES

Your Hometown Newspaper
Wherever You Go, We Go

estripes.osd.mil

Travel Agencies 1002

BOOK ONLINE
Don't like your Christmas gift?
Try one to January and give him/her
Examples: Roundtrip Germany
Phoenix €275 €164
San Antonio €367 €230
Chicago €275 €164
Washington €265 €165
*Fares not restricted, departing 48 hrs after press
weekend, all fares in Euros, show 50 days, non-
stop, changeable, no-carrier change, other restrictions
www.us-discount-travel.com
Call toll-free 0800-FLY2USA
K-Town 06221-619357
H-Hotel 0631-370930
H-Hotel 0631-370930
H-Hotel 0631-370930
H-Hotel 0631-370930

Happy New Year from all
of us at US Discount Travel!

Discounted Seats to the States still available!

Call toll free 0800-5878359

Mo - Fr 09:00 - 18:00
Sa 09:00 - 13:00

ABC TRAVEL SERVICE
Danish WEDDINGS
The BEST WAY TO SEE EUROPE
See our web: www.abctravel.de
Discount Flight Fares Fly Now • Fly Later
Plane a Car Train Tickets
Last Minute Specials City Group Tours
Hotel Reservations Cruises & Ferry Tickets
ABC Travel Service 10100 Mannheim
ABC Travel Service 10100 Mannheim

WHY PAY MORE!

We are offering
special Winter fares lowest
7 days a week
from 6am-10pm
Please call ACS: 069 743 090 10

BANDWIDTH TRAVEL

A new company meeting
all your airline travel needs.
Opening hours Mo-Sa from 8am - 6pm
For Reservations Call: 06781 50 82 759

Military Travel International

Over a million airlines worldwide
Accommodation 64 • 63457 Hono
Fax: 0611-90499 • e-mail: info@miltravel.de
Call 0611-90499
Mon - Fri 9 am - 6 pm • Sat 11 am - 2 pm
www.miltravel.de

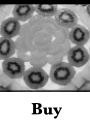
DISCOUNT FLIGHTS

Germany to/from U.S.A. - Payment Plan
American www.flyusave.com
Travel Center ph: 0180-5007427

Standard
Issue Meets
A New
Standard

Now Stars and Stripes
newspaper is also
available electronically. Get
your copy for FREE at
estripes.osd.mil

What's your scene?



Buy
Stripes this
Sunday
and every
Sunday to
get your
scene!



Long Distance Service 660

**Sign Up and get a *Free
800 Number from the US!**
THE Lowest Phone Rates to the USA (48 States)
Germany 4⁵ C To USA
On/Off Base
Germany 26⁵ C To USA
Cellphones
Italy 5⁹ C To USA
On/Off Base
KUWAIT Cell: 20c
Via DSN Opt: 5.9c
SPAIN: 7.9c
PORTUGAL: 9.9c
TURKEY: 29c
* By simply dialing your Militel
"Cellphone" 800 number + PIN.
Friends and Family in the US can
connect to you directly at
amazingly low rates! All your 800
calls are billed to your account!
Note: If a 24hr Toll Free Number is
not listed for your location, please
e-mail for last return call or sign
up online at www.militel.net.
Fast, Easy Sign Up 24 hrs!
Credit Card / US Bank Debit!
Itemized Monthly Billing!
24/7 Live Customer Support!
CALL TOLL FREE 24 HRS
Germany 800-1826-224
Italy 800-872-252
Spain 900-961-539
US Direct 1-402-392-7513
E-mail info@militel.net

Transportation 944

INTERGLOBAL Shipping GmbH
Specialized Shipping to/from the US & Canada
Austria, Switzerland, Greece, Personal Belongings
Contact your Pre's at the Docks today!!
info@interglobalshipping.de
www.interglobalshipping.de
Tel (0421) 340650 Fax (0421) 340 655

WORLDWIDE SHIPPING AGENCY

Ship Care Containers
to/from USA
100% Insured
www.worldwide-ship.de
Tel: 0611-340650 Fax: 0611-340 655

Tax Assistance 940

**Can Your Tax Guy
Get Money This Fast?**
Instant Money, nobody
gets your money faster.
With Instant Money, you can walk in
with your taxes and walk out with a
refund! participation loan check. Is
your tax guy that fast? Come in and
get Instant Money today.
Call 1-800-MILLOCK or visit www.imf.com for an office near you.
Full-Credit 918 • Accufax 918 • Lendable 918 • Lendable 918 • Lendable 918
1034 Dallas 6307 Texas 6677777777 6677777777 6677777777 6677777777
1034 Dallas 6307 Texas 6677777777 6677777777 6677777777 6677777777

Financial Services 904

LOANS
Worldwide Loan Services for active
US Military. Call toll free:
Germany 0800yesloan Italy/Belgium 0800yesloans
USA 1877omniusa or go to www.yesomni.com
omni
"We love to
say yes!"

LOANS

Active Duty & Retired Military GS-5 & Above
Call Fax-Email for IMMEDIATE SERVICE
\$700 - \$15,000
USLOANS
For E-Z Online Service, Visit Our Website at
www.USLOANS.cc
Tel: (849) 0637-1722 or Fax: (849) 0637-2633
E-Mail: USLoanRequest@aol.com
Toll Free Tel: 0800-USA LOANS (875-6267)
Hours: Mon-Fri 0900-1800, Saturday by appointment
no-fee: Leading American Military Lenders

MLP
Financial Advisors
Property in Germany
• Use your
housing allowance
• High quality
townhouses on reasonable
lots in the Heidelberg area
• Build your
financial freedom today
• Expert financial consultation
Phone: 0621-127 12 58

First baseman Delgado to meet with Mets, Rangers

BY RONALD BLUM
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — After Carlos Delgado meets the Mets, he'll get together with the Rangers.

"We hope that these meetings, along with my discussion yesterday with the Florida Marlins, will make it possible to conclude the negotiations for Carlos in the near future," the first baseman's agent,

David Sloane, said in an e-mail Wednesday.

Delgado was to meet with New York officials on Thursday in Puerto Rico, then have a session with Texas on Friday. Sloane did not mention Baltimore, the fourth team courting Delgado.

Mets pitcher Pedro Martinez has tried to recruit Delgado and is interested in a prominent player mentioned in trade talk this winter.

"I've also talked to Sammy Sosa, and he told me that it would be an honor to play with me in New York," Martinez said, referring to the Chicago Cubs' star outfielder.

In other news Wednesday, Brian Jordan returned to Atlanta, where he starred for the Braves and the NFL's Falcons. The outfielder, who will be 38 by Opening Day, got a \$600,000, one-year contract from Atlanta that allows him to earn an additional \$400,000 in performance and roster bonuses.

"I'm in great shape, back in my football days shape," Jordan said. "I've worked hard to get to this



Carlos Delgado has met with the Florida Marlins and scheduled meetings with the New York Mets and Texas Rangers, but his agent hasn't mentioned the Baltimore Orioles, the other team interested in the free-agent first baseman.

point."

Jordan, slowed by injuries, has not played in more than 66 games since 2002, and he hit .222 with five homers and 23 RBIs for Texas last season.

"The doctors were very, very

positive about his condition overall," Braves General Manager John Schuerholz said. "The whole key is if he stays physically strong and healthy and doesn't get banged up and have a debilitating injury, he's going to be pro-



Brian Jordan, 37, who hasn't played more than 66 games in a season since 2002, agreed to a one-year, \$600,000 contract with the Atlanta Braves on Wednesday.

ductive for us."

Esteban Loaiza agreed to a \$2.9 million, one-year contract with the Washington Nationals, who also gave an \$800,000, one-year deal to reliever Antonio Osuna.

Loaiza went 21-9 with a 2.90 ERA and a league-leading 207 strikeouts for the Chicago White Sox in 2003, was the AL starter in the All-Star Game and finished second in Cy Young Award voting behind Toronto's Roy Halladay. He struggled with his velocity last year, going 9-5 with a 4.86

ERA for the White Sox, then was traded to the New York Yankees and went 1-2 with an 8.50 ERA in 10 regular-season games.

"Of course, he's a gamble," Nationals General Manager Jim Bowden said. "Obviously, if he was coming off the year he had a year ago, we couldn't afford him."

Milwaukee agreed to an \$800,000, one-year contract with free-agent reliever Ricky Bottalico and settled its arbitration case with Brooks Kieschnick in a \$550,000 deal that contains bonuses for pitching and hitting.

Texas agreed to a \$1.1 million contract with right-hander Carlos Almanzar, leaving 37 players in arbitration among the 89 who filed last Friday.

Pitcher Tony Saunders, who retired in 2000 after breaking his left arm for the second time, agreed to a minor league contract with Baltimore. On May 26, 1999, the humerus bone in his left arm broke while he was throwing a pitch in a game at Tampa Bay.

"The last four years, I never really thought about it because of how it ended," he said. "It didn't end where someone told me I wasn't good enough. It ended on a very bad injury. Did I miss the game? Most definitely. But it was never really a thought to come back and pitch again."

Also agreeing to minor league contracts were pitcher Aaron Sele and infielder Ricky Gutierrez (Seattle), pitcher Jose Jimenez (Arizona), infielder Jose Offerman (Philadelphia), third baseman Dean Palmer (Detroit), and infielder Shyne Halter and outfielder Marty Cordova (Tampa Bay).

STRIPES CLASSIFIED

ManTech International is recruiting for a Business Development Specialist to join the European business office.

Position is located in Mannheim Germany. Candidates should have a technical background in Telecommunications or Information Technology, a solid command of the English language, and good computer skills. A current U.S. Security clearance is preferred, but not essential.

Candidates should e-mail their resume and cover letter to:
Peter.wood@mantech.com

ManTech
International Corporation

STARS & STRIPES
Your Hometown Newspaper
www.stripes.com

Congratulations
First Sergeant
JAMES "WOODY" BIGGS
on winning this year's



No. 4 Duke subdues upstart Hurricanes

BY STEVEN WINE
The Associated Press

CORAL GABLES, Fla. — The Duke Blue Devils have four perimeter players in their starting lineup and just three recruited scholarship players on their bench. They also have a 14-0 record.

"We're getting to our destination on a side street, not a super-highway," Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski said.

Duke's game Wednesday against surprising Atlantic Coast Conference newcomer Miami was expected to be an alley fight. Instead, the Blue Devils built a 19-point lead in the second half and won 92-83.

Junior Sheldon Williams scored a career-high 30 points for the fourth-ranked Blue Devils, who shot 61 percent.

"They shot the ball great," Miami coach Frank Haith said. "They were very sound and didn't make many mistakes."

The Blue Devils have their best record after 14 games since 1991-92, when they won their first 17 games en route to the national championship. They're 4-0 in the ACC.

"We know who we are," Krzyzewski said. "We're not an outstanding team, but we're a good team, and we're trying to get better."

Duke's first visit to Miami since 1988 attracted a sellout crowd of 7,000 to cheer on the Hurricanes, who averaged just 2,545 at home last season. Miami students, historically apathetic about the basketball program, began lining up for tickets five hours before game time. Celebrities Alex Rodriguez and Alonzo Mourning were among those sitting in the front row.

But Duke took the crowd out of the game.

"This was a great win," said Daniel Ewing, who scored 16 points in 40 minutes. "We knew it was going to be a high-energy atmosphere, their fans were going to be into it, and they were going to be ready to play. We followed our game plan pretty well. We



Duke's Sheldon Williams (left), shooting over Miami's Anthony King, scored a career-high 30 points on Wednesday and made 11 of 12 field-goal attempts. Duke (14-0) shot 61 percent from the field.

just executed real well on both ends tonight."

The Hurricanes (12-4, 3-2) had won their past three conference games, but fell behind early and trailed by 19 with 10 minutes left.

"We're just holding a chip on our shoulder now," said Miami senior William Frisby, who tied a career-high with 18 points.

Robert Hite, the Hurricanes' scoring leader with an average of 19 points per game, was held to six points on 2-for-7 shooting. His first points came with 6 1/2 minutes left when Duke led by 15.

Williams went 11-for-12 from the field and 8-for-8 from the free-throw line, and he added seven rebounds in 37 minutes.

"We've gotten the ball to him as much as we can," Ewing said.

"When he has it, pretty much no one can stop him down there one-on-one."

The Blue Devils shot 31-for-51 to finish above 50 percent for the third consecutive game. They made 10 of 21 three-pointers.

"We wanted to change the way we've been starting games," Williams said. "One of the things we wanted to do was get going early."

They did. Penetrating inside early, the Blue Devils sank five shots in a row for a 16-10 lead. Miami made six of seven during one stretch and was up 17-16, then cooled off as Duke began to pull away.

Guillermo Diaz had 15 points for Miami.

Anthony Harris added 25, and Anthony King had 10 points and 10 rebounds for the Hurricanes.

Kansas, BC barely remain undefeated

The Associated Press

Kansas and Boston College barely remained unbeaten on Wednesday night.

Second-ranked Kansas hung on for a 59-57 victory when Nebraska's Corey Simms missed an open three-pointer with 2.6 seconds left.

And No. 9 Boston College trailed by six with 2 minutes to go before rallied past Villanova 67-66 on Jared Dudley's go-ahead free throws with 5.5 seconds remaining.

"It just shows the will to win," Dudley said.

At Lawrence, Kan., Wayne Simien scored all 12 of his points in the second half and Kansas (14-0, 4-0 Big 12) edged Nebraska despite making only 13 of 28 free throws and being out rebounded 43-36.

The Cornhuskers (8-6, 2-2) went for the win and not the tie on their final shot. Simms missed a three-pointer with the clock winding down, and Alex Galindo hugged the rebound to his chest as the buzzer sounded.

"We got lucky. He had a wide-open look," Kansas' Michael Lee said. "You can't draw it up any better than that for a game-winning shot."

At Boston, Dudley scored a career-high 36 points — topping his previous best of 24 by halftime — and Boston College (15-0, 4-0 Big East) scored the last seven points of the game to beat Villanova (9-4, 2-3).

The Eagles have played a lot of close games this season, including overtime against Holy Cross, double overtime against Yale and a win over Kent State after a buzzer-beating shot.

"I know we've put ourselves in that situation, and we've had success," coach Al Skinner said. "But we don't want to play that way."

In other Top 25 games Wednesday:

No. 6 North Carolina 77, Clemson 58: At Clemson, S.C., Rashad McCants scored 17 of his 23 points in the second half and North Carolina overcame a sluggish start.

McCants hit consecutive three-pointers to close a 19-7 run that put North Carolina (15-2, 4-1 Atlantic Coast Conference) ahead to stay, 46-34, with 12:07 left.

Point guard Raymond Felton added 11 points and 10 rebounds for the Tar Heels, who had won

Men's Top 25 Roundup

14 straight before falling to Wake Forest on Saturday.

Freshman Cheyenne Moore made four three-pointers and tied Clemson (10-7, 1-4) with a career-high 14 points.

No. 8 Kentucky 53, Mississippi 50: At Oxford, Miss., freshman Rajon Rondo scored 11 of his 13 points in the second half to help Kentucky rally from a 15-point deficit.

Ole Miss (11-7, 2-3 Southeastern Conference) had the ball trailing 51-50 in the final moments, but Kendrick Fox missed a three-pointer with 19 seconds to play and Kentucky's Patrick Sparks hit two free throws to extend the lead.

Londrick Nolen's desperation three-pointer at the buzzer bounced off the rim, giving the Wildcats (13-2, 4-0) their second big comeback win of the season and ninth victory in 10 games. Keleena Azubike had 11 points for Kentucky, but to its lowest point total of the season.

No. 14 Louisville 92, East Carolina 41: At Louisville, Ky., reserve guard Brandon Jenkins scored a career-high 14 points and backup forward Otis George had 13 points and 10 rebounds to lead Louisville.

Tajuan Dean scored 13 and Juan Palacios had 12 points and 10 rebounds for the Cardinals (15-3, 4-1 Conference USA), who dominated from the start, propelled by sharp three-point shooting and suffocating full-court pressure.

The Pirates (512-0, 5-2) committed 24 turnovers and shot 26 percent (15 of 58).

No. 20 Cincinnati 80, Charlotte 58: At Cincinnati, Nick Williams scored 19 of his career-high 22 points in the second half, steadying the Bearcats.

Jason Maxiell had 23 points and Eric Hicks grabbed 13 rebounds as Cincinnati (15-2, 4-1 Conference USA) rebounded from a three-point loss to Louisville on Saturday, when the Bearcats blew a 17-point lead because of poor rebounding and free-throw shooting.

Charlotte (12-3, 3-1) had won nine in a row, its longest winning streak in 14 years.

U.S. World Cup soccer qualifier threatened by dispute

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Negotiators from the U.S. Soccer Federation and its union are scheduled to meet with a federal mediator on Monday in an effort to resolve the dispute threatening to keep the regular players off the field for a World Cup qualifier on Feb. 9 at Trinidad and Tobago.

Sports Briefs

The sides, arguing over money and other issues, will meet at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport along with a mediator.

If there is no agreement by Feb. 1, the USNF says it will use replacement players for the first 10 games in the final round of qualifying from the North and Central American and Caribbean region.

Poutinen takes women's slam, World Cup overall lead

SLJEME, Croatia — Tanja Poutinen of Finland took the lead in the World Cup standings after winning Thursday's slalom. Poutinen edged American skier Kristina Koznick by 87 seconds.

Americans Sarah Schleper finished

sixth and Resi Stiegler placed 10th.

Spears hired as Grambling grid coach

GRAMBLING, La. — Melvin Spears was hired as Grambling State's football coach Thursday after serving on an interim basis last season.

Spears was an assistant under Doug Williams, but was promoted after Williams resigned before the season for a job with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

The Tigers were 6-5 last season. Spears was Grambling's offensive coordinator for six seasons under Williams.

"Just to be able to coach at such a histori-

cally significant institution is an honor in itself," Spears said.

Rockets sign Rod Strickland

HOUSTON — The Houston Rockets signed veteran point guard Rod Strickland on Wednesday.

A 17-year NBA journeyman, Strickland, 38, as a free agent and didn't play on a team at the start of this season. He spent much of last year with Orlando before forcing his release in March and played the final month of the season with Toronto.

Strickland ranks seventh in NBA history with 7,948 assists.

Stars pass a top 10 standings

The Associated Press

The best record in the NBA no longer belongs to the Phoenix Suns.

San Antonio took over the top spot in the league standings Wednesday night by edging the Los Angeles Clippers 89-79, while the Suns lost their fifth straight, 88-79 to the Memphis Grizzlies.

"Pretty ugly," Phoenix coach Mike D'Antoni said. "The effort is there. But the layups and easy shots we started missing, I just think we're starting pressing, and we're out of sync."

The Suns' loss dropped their record to 31-19, while San Antonio's victory gave it a mark of 32-9 along with an NBA-best home record of 21-1.

The Spurs and Suns will play each other Friday night at Phoenix, and the Suns could have Steve Nash back from a three-game absence due to a bruised thigh and twisted back. They'll need him if they're going to have a chance to stop Tony Parker's Nash back from a three-game absence due to a bruised thigh and twisted back. They'll need him if they're going to have a chance to stop Tony Parker's Nash back from a three-game absence due to a bruised thigh and twisted back.

The Spurs fell behind 79-78 with 19 seconds remaining on a pair of free throws by Bobbin Simmons. On the next possession, Manu Ginobili curled around the lane and passed to Parker for a three-pointer to get Bobbin Simmons off his feet and then drove baseline.

Roundup

"I wanted to shoot the three, but they came so fast that I pump-faked and it was wide open," he said.

The Clippers' final inbound play went to Elton Brand, who backed Tim Duncan in a couple of steps before his turnaround jump went off the right side of the rim.

Grizzlies 88, Suns 79: At Phoenix, three reserves led the Grizzlies, who won their fourth in a row and 10th in 11 games. Bonzi Wells scored 16, Stromile Swift had 14 and Brian Cardinal 13 for Memphis, which won their fourth straight on the road.

The Suns had season lows in points and field goal shooting (33 percent) for the second game in a row.

Cavaliers 107, Trail Blazers 101: At Portland, Ore., LeBron James had 27 points, 11 rebounds and 10 assists to become the youngest player in NBA history to record a triple-double.

James is 20 years and 20 days old, younger than Lamar Odom, who was 20 years and 54 days old when he did it on Dec. 30, 1999, when he led the Los Angeles Clippers.

Hornets 90, Pacers 87: At New Orleans, Lee Nailor scored 30 points, and Rodney Rogers had 12 points, the last on a stunning

play from him as he slapped the rebound from Dan Dick's missed free throw out of Jermaine O'Neal's hands, sending the ball into the hoop with 37 seconds left.

Reggie Miller missed a three-point attempt from the corner that would have tied it.

Heat 111, Hawks 92: At Miami, Shaquille O'Neal and Dwyane Wade each scored 25 points, helping the Heat improve the Eastern Conference's best record to 29-11.

Wade, who missed Miami's previous two games with back spasms, sore ribs and a migraine, scored 12 of his points in the third quarter to help the Heat pull away. O'Neal added 12 rebounds, and Eddie Jones scored 16 for Miami, which played its first home game in two weeks.

Celtics 92, Bulls 83: At Boston, Paul Pierce scored 28 points and Dwyane Wade added 21 rebounds. Al Jefferson added 17 points, snapping Chicago's seven-game winning streak.

After falling behind 66-57, the Celtics retied the lead for good with a 12-2 run midway through the fourth quarter. Jefferson hit three field goals during Boston's decisive run, including a floater as the shot clock expired to put the Celtics up 84-77 with 1:30 left.

Raptors 96, Knicks 81: At Toronto, Jalen Rose scored 30 of his 24 points in the second half, and the Raptors made seven



Spurs guard Tony Parker looks to pass around Clippers center Chris Kaman (35) during the first quarter. Parker scored 25 points.

three-pointers in the fourth quarter, outscoring the Knicks 38-20 in the period to send New York to its eighth loss in nine games.

76ers 107, Bobcats 105: At Charlotte, Allen Iverson scored 24 points, and Kyle Korver and Corliss Williamson made big plays down the stretch. Emeka Okafor led Charlotte with 18 points, 19 rebounds and three blocked shots, but he went June 4-for-12 at the line and missed two free throws in the final 2:33 with a chance to tie it both times.

Nets 96, Bucks 90: At East Rutherford, N.J., Vince Carter scored a season-high 33 points, and Jason Kidd added 17 points and 10 assists. Carter added nine rebounds and nine assists to go along with his 14-for-24 shooting.

Lakers 93, Timberwolves 90: At Los Angeles, Carlton Butler's driving layup with 35 seconds left put the Lakers ahead for good.

Kevin Garnett missed a baseline jumper with 13 seconds remaining, and Jamaal Tinsley made two free throws to complete the scoring.

NBA scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division			
Team	W	L	Pct
Boston	18	47	.278
Brooklyn	18	47	.278
New York	17	47	.265
Toronto	17	47	.265
New Jersey	14	50	.219
Southeast Division			
Team	W	L	Pct
Miami	21	45	.318
Washington	19	47	.288
Orlando	18	48	.269
Atlanta	7	59	.106
Central Division			
Team	W	L	Pct
Cleveland	23	42	.354
Indiana	19	46	.292
Chicago	18	47	.278
Minnesota	13	54	.191

Western Conference

Southwest Division			
Team	W	L	Pct
San Antonio	24	36	.400
Dallas	22	38	.366
Memphis	20	40	.333
New Orleans	20	40	.333
Northwest Division			
Team	W	L	Pct
Seattle	19	41	.315
Minnesota	19	41	.315
Portland	15	45	.250
Utah	15	45	.250
Pacific Division			
Team	W	L	Pct
Phoenix	9	55	.143
Sacramento	26	37	.411
Golden State	25	38	.396
LA Clippers	20	43	.318
LA Lakers	18	45	.288

Wednesday's games

Home	Visitor	Score
Boston	LA Lakers	89-88
Toronto	San Antonio	89-79
Philadelphia	Charlotte	105-98
MI, Atlanta	MI, Atlanta	88-79
New Jersey	MI, Atlanta	88-79
MI, Atlanta	MI, Atlanta	88-79
San Antonio	MI, Atlanta	88-79
LA Clippers	MI, Atlanta	88-79
MI, Atlanta	MI, Atlanta	88-79
Cleveland	MI, Atlanta	88-79
Thursday's games		
LA Clippers	MI, Atlanta	88-79
Houston	MI, Atlanta	88-79
Friday's games		
Toronto	MI, Atlanta	88-79
Dallas	MI, Atlanta	88-79
Toronto	MI, Atlanta	88-79
Boston	MI, Atlanta	88-79
MI, Atlanta	MI, Atlanta	88-79
MI, Atlanta	MI, Atlanta	88-79
MI, Atlanta	MI, Atlanta	88-79
MI, Atlanta	MI, Atlanta	88-79
MI, Atlanta	MI, Atlanta	88-79
MI, Atlanta	MI, Atlanta	88-79

Golden State at L.A. Lakers
Saturday's games
 Philadelphia at Orlando
 Boston at Atlanta
 Chicago at Detroit
 Washington at Indiana
 L.A. Clippers at New Orleans
 Memphis at Utah
 Minnesota at Portland
 Cleveland at Golden State

Wednesday
Celtics 92, Bulls 83

CHICAGO — Deng 3-11 2-3 9, A.Davis 3-4 0-0 5, Curry 10-16 6-7 26, Hinrich 4-17 3-3 12, Duhon 1-4 4-7 8, Nocioni 0-5 0-0 0, Chandler 2-5 4-5 8, Harrington 2-5 1-2 5, Gordon 1-7 3-5, Griffin 0-0 0-0 0, Platkowski 2-6 0-0 5. Totals 28-80 23-27 83.

BOSTON — Welsch 1-7 4-4 6, LaFrentz 5-11 0-0 13, Blount 0-3 0-0 0, Payton 4-10 2-6 10, Pierce 10-26 8-9 28, Jefferson 6-8 5-5 17, R.Davis 5-10 1-2 11, McCarty 0-0 0-0 0, Banks 0-2 2-2 2, Allen 1-3 0-0 2, Gugliotta 0-0 0-0 0, Perkins 1-2 1-2 3. Totals 33-81 23-30 92.

Chicago 28 19 22 14-8
Orlando 20 23 12 24-0

Three-Point Goals—Chicago 4-21 (Platkowsky 1-2, Deng 1-4, Duhon 1-4, Hinrich 1-7, Nocioni 0-1, Gordon 0-3), Boston 3-14 (LaFrentz 3-6, Banks 0-1, Welsch 0-2, Pierce 0-5). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Chicago 55 (Chandler 14), Boston 56 (Pierce 11). Assists—Chicago 23 (Duhon 7), Boston 21 (Pierce 6). Total Fouls—Chicago 25, Boston 21. Technical Fouls—Chicago Defensive Three Second 2, Chicago

Cago coach Skiles, Boston Defensive Three
-20, Pierce, A-13,109. (18,624).

76ers 107, Bobcats 105

PHILADELPHIA — Korver 6-14 2-2 18, Thomas 9-18 3-4 21, Dalembert 2-3 1-2 5, Iverson 7-20 9-11 24, Igouada 2-5 1-2 5, McKie 0-3 2-2 2, M.Jackson 4-7 8-9 16, Brown 0-0 0-0 0, Williams 0-0 0-0 0.

amson 4-9 6-6 14, Green 0-2 2-2 2. Totals 34-81 34-40 107.				
CHARLOTTE — Wallace 6-12 1-4 15, Okafors 7-14 4-12 18, Brezec 6-11 4-4 16, Knight 0-1 0-0 0, Rush 2-8 3-4 9, Hart 7-11 4-4 19, Bogans 1-0 0-0 2, Kapono 3-8 2-2 10, Sampson 1-3 3-4 5, Ely 0-1 0-0 0, S.Smith 4-5 1-1 11, B.Robinson 0-0 0-0 0, Totals 37-80 22-35 105.				
Philadelphia	27	26	29	25-10
Charlotte	34	40	107	

Charlotte	23	28	28	24-10
Three-Point Goals—	Philadelphia 5-21	(Korver 4-11, Iverson 1-6, McKie 0-2, Igouda 0-2), Charlotte 9-17	(Kapon 2-3, S.Smith 2-3, Wallace 2-4, Rush 2-4, Hart 1-1, Bogans 0-2)	
Fouled Out—None,	Rebounds—Philadelphia 56	(Thomas, Igouda 9), Charlotte 53	(Okaf 19), Assists—Philadelphia 16	(Iverson 6)
Charlotte 26	(Hart 7), Total Fouls—Philadelphia 25,	Charlotte 25,	Technical—Philadelphia	

Philadelphia Defensive Three Second, Charlotte
coach Bickerstaff 2. Ejected—Charlotte
coach Bickerstaff A—12 336 (23 319)

Cavaliers 107 Trail Blazers 101

CLEVELAND — Gooden 6-13 3-4 15, James 11-16 6-4 27, Ilgauskas 8-12 5-7 21, Newble 1-1 2-3, McInnis 4-14 2-3 11, Snow 4-8 3-4 11, Varejao 1-4 0-2 2, Harris 3-5 0-0 7, Traylor 2-0 0-4, Pavlovic 2-5 0-4. Totals 42-82 18-28 107.

PORTLAND — Patterson 5-13 4-10 14, Ratliff 0-0 0-0, Przybilla 5-9 3-4 13, Stoudamir 10-21 2-2 27, Van Exel 10-16 3-4 28, Thomas 2-6 2-6, Seung-jin 0-0 0-0, Anderson 2-

3-5 9, Outlaw 0-2 2-4 2, Telfair 1-2 0-0 1, Frahm 0-0 0-0. Totals 35-75 19-33 101.

Cleveland	26	29	24	28	107
Portland	29	20	17	35	101

Three-Point Goals—Cleveland 5-11 (Snow 2-3, James 1-1, McInnis 1-2, Harris 1-3, Pavlovic 0-2), Portland 12-23 (Van Exel 5-8, Stoudamire 5-10, Anderson 2-4). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Cleveland 51 (Ilgauskas 13, James 11), Portland 53 (Thomas 15), Assists—Cleveland 23 (McInnis 10, Harris 5, Snow 4, Pavlovic 3, James 2), Portland 20 (Van Exel 10, Anderson 5, Stoudamire 4, Thomas 3, Telfair 2). Steals—Cleveland 10 (Harris 3, Snow 2, James 2, McInnis 2, Pavlovic 1), Portland 10 (Anderson 3, Stoudamire 3, Thomas 2, Telfair 1, Van Exel 1). Blocks—Cleveland 10 (Snow 4, Harris 3, James 2, McInnis 1, Pavlovic 1), Portland 10 (Anderson 3, Stoudamire 3, Thomas 2, Telfair 1, Van Exel 1). Total Fouls—Cleveland 20, Portland 21. Shot Clock—Cleveland 1:00, Portland 1:00. Referee—Tommy Williams. Linesmen—Dwight Grant, Mike Williams. Scorekeepers—Dwight Grant, Mike Williams. Officials—Dwight Grant, Mike Williams.

slists—Cleveland 29 (James 10), Portland 21 (Stoudamire 6). Total Fouls—Cleveland 21, Portland 20. Technicals—Cleveland Defensive Three Second, Newble, Portland Defensive Three Second, Przybilla, Van Exel. A-16,398. (19,980).

Raptors 98, Knicks 81

NEW YORK — T.Thomas 3-15 6-8 12, K.Thomas 4-8 0-0 8, Mohammed 7-12 2-3 26, Crawford 3-10 0-0 7, Marbury 6-15 1-4 13, J.Williams 5-8 1-2 11, Houston 5-12 1-1 12, Ariza 0-0-0, Sweetney 1-1 0-0 2, Brewer 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 34-88 11-18 81.

TORONTO — E.Williams 0-2 0-0 0, Bosh 4-11 6-10 14, Ariza 0-2 0-0 0, Patterson 0-4 0-4 1.

Alston 5-8 2-5 13, Marshall 5-7 2-2 17, Ros-
8-14 8-9 24, Bonner 1-2 5-5 7, Palacio 1-2 0-0-
L.Murray 2-5 1-2 7. Totals 30-66 28-37 98.
New York 20 23 18 20-8
Toronto 19 25 16 38-9
Three-Point Goals—New York 2-16 (Hous-
ton 1-4, Crawford 1-5, Brewer 0-1, T.Thoma-
0-2, Marbury 0-4), Toronto 10-20 (Marsha-
5-6, L.Murray 2-3, Peterson 2-5, Alston 1-

E. Williams 0-1, Bonner 0-1). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—New York 53 (Mohamed 17), Toronto 53 (Bosh 14). Assists—New York 16 (Marbury 5), Toronto 18 (Rose, A. Ston 5). Total Fouls—New York 28, Toronto 20. Technicals—New York Defensive Three Second, Toronto Defensive Three Second: A—16,613. (19,800).

Spurs 80, Clippers 79

L.A. CLIPPERS — Simmons 3-7 4-5 10, Brantley 4-18 6-9 14, Kaman 8-19 5-8 21, Maggette 7-15 5-5 20, Brunson 2-6 2-2 8, Rebraca 2-4 0-0 0, Martin 1-5 0-0 2, Ross 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 27-77 22-29 79.

SAN ANTONIO — Bowen 2-6 1-2 5, Duncan 5-16 2-3 12, Nesterovich 1-3 0-0 2, Ginobili 3-11 7-7 13, Parker 11-18 3-3 25, Barry 2-7 2-3 10.

Horry 2-6 0-0 4, Massenburg 1-3 0-0 2, Udri		
4-4 0-0 2, Brown 1-2 0-0 3, Rose 1-3 0-0 2. To		
tals 31-78 16-18 80.		

L.A. Clippers	19	22	14	24-79
San Antonio	21	19	25	15-89

Three-Point Goals—L.A. Clippers 3-7 (Brunson 2-3, Maggette 1-3, Martin 0-1), San Antonio 2-15 (Brown 1-1, Barry 1-3, Bowen 0-1, Parker 0-2, Horry 0-2, Ginobili 0-6). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—L.A. Clippers 62 (Brand 18), San Antonio 44 (Duncan 14). Assists—L.A. Clippers 16 (Brand, Brunson 4), San Antonio 21 (Parker 7). Total Fouls—L.A. Clippers 20, San Antonio 25. Technicals—L.A.

Clinchers Defensive Three Second, L.A. Clippers coach Dumkeavy, San Antonio Defensive Three Second. A-17,603. (18,500).

Nets 96, Bucks 90

MILWAUKEE — Mason 7-13 3-4 17, Jo.Smith 3-9 2-8, Gadzuric 3-4 0-0 6, Redd 12-24 2-4 30, M.Williams 3-6 0-7, Pachulia 0-1 2-2 2, Van Horn 3-9 0-6, James 4-9 3-13, Fizer 0-1 1-2 1.

Cowher: Steelers coach all business

COWHER, FROM BACK PAGE

Cowher dismisses the notion his team were unprepared, read "outcoached" — but it's evident the Steelers have altered their approach since losing 24-17 to New England in the AFC title game in January 2002.

There's not a sliver of a chance Cowher would allow a Super Bowl rap video rehearsal this week, as he did 10 years ago. He also hasn't said one word about Super Bowl plans, as he did in 2002 — a miscalculation the Patriots turned into a motivational tool.

The Steelers' minimalist plan to focus every bit of attention on that day's practice or that week's game, never once daring to look behind or ahead. It's the old one-game-at-a-time tactic, and it's worked perfectly for 16 of 17 games.

"We realize the magnitude of the game, but you don't deviate from what you've done to get here and we're not going to do that," said Cowher, who decided not to alter practice or change times this week.

Cowher adopted the approach during training camp, when he eschewed previous antics such as watching the movies or stopping a practice early because he liked what he saw.

"Maybe the last few years we've gotten away from some things," Cowher said.

That the 47-year-old Cowher has been more motivated and more energized hasn't been lost on his employers, who gave him a contract extension despite last season's 6-10 record.

"He's at the stage of his career where he's made enough money, he's raised a family, he's been successful," team president Art Rooney II said. "The only thing left for him to do is win a championship."

Doing so this season might be Cowher's biggest challenge yet.

Belichick is 8-1 in the playoffs to Cowher's 8-8, but it's evident Cowher dislikes all of this talk about the Genius vs. the Jaw.

Despite Belichick's success in devising successful defensive game plans, Cowher pointedly answered "No" when asked if the Patriots' schemes are more complex than others in the league.

"To me, it's not so much [playing] Bill as it is playing the New England Patriots," Cowher said. "I don't think it's a mystic or anything else. You have to understand going in that what you see isn't always what you get."

Of course, the same could be said of the Steelers going into championship games.

"We've got to seize this opportunity," Cowher said.

Former coach proud of Falcons' success

Reeves responsible for assembling much of team playing in NFC title game

BY PAUL NEWBERRY
The Associated Press

ATLANTA — Dan Reeves will be watching the NFL championship game from afar.

He won't have to call any plays, or manage the clock, or decide which guys to send on the field. All he has to do is make sure his television is switched to the right station.

Even so, the former Atlanta Falcons coach feels a definite sense of pride, knowing he played a role in building the team that is just one victory away from the Super Bowl.

In fact, Reeves gets credit for perhaps the most significant move in franchise history — the trade that landed Pro Bowl quarterback Michael Vick on the eve of the 2001 draft.

A lot of my coaches are still part of it. A lot of my players, too," said Reeves, who coached the Falcons for almost seven seasons and still lives in Atlanta. "I have a good feeling about this football team."

It's not a team anyone. Reeves was fired as the 2003 season was winding down, his tenure snuffed out by that most common offense — not enough wins.

The Falcons, who reached the second round of the playoffs in Reeves' second-to-last year, were doomed when Vick broke his leg in a preseason game. With the team at 3-10, owner Arthur Blank made his move.

Reeves was told he could finish the season but would just sit 15 yards and he failed to throw a touchdown pass for the first time in his 16 complete games this season.

Jim Mora was hired as Reeves' replacement, inheriting a team composed mostly of players brought in by the previous regime. In a sign of respect, the new coach also kept nine member of his predecessor's staff — including Reeves' son-in-law, special teams coordinator Joe DeCamillis.

"I think it was a tremendous amount of credit for setting the table for us," Mora said Wednesday. "My whole life, I looked up to him. Anytime I can pick his brain about things that might help the team, I do."



Former Atlanta Falcons coach Dan Reeves, left, was fired last season, but he remains the only coach to take the team to a Super Bowl and he pulled off the trade on the eve of the 2001 draft that landed Michael Vick (7).

Reeves has called up Mora several times this season, most notably after a 56-10 loss to Kansas City in late October. The ex-coach recounted how the Falcons got whipped by San Francisco early in the '98 season, but bounced back to make the Super Bowl for the first time in franchise history.

"I thought we were in position to be one of the elite teams in the league, but the 49ers kicked our butts," Reeves remembered.

"How the team reacted made me understand and know that we had a special group."

This team reacted the same way to the Kansas City debacle, winning at Denver the following week to spark a four-game winning streak. The Falcons won the NFC South going 4-1 and got the playoffs started with a 47-17 rout of St. Louis last weekend.

Now, it's on to Philadelphia for Sunday's NFL title game — and a spot in the Super Bowl.

Reeves isn't surprised by the Falcons' success. Last season, after Vick returned to the lineup, they won three of their last four games. While the season record was still a dismal 5-11, Reeves knew the team could make a run at the playoffs as long as Vick remained healthy.

"You always learn more about your players during adversity than when guys are playing well," Reeves said. "Most of the guys really get it everything they had last year. Those same guys are the ones who are playing real well this year."

Of the 22 players expected to start against the Eagles, 17 are holdovers from the Reeves' era. Vick is the most prominent of these, of course, but the list also includes Atlanta's other three Pro Bowl players: tight end Alge Crumpler, defensive end Patrick Kerney and linebacker Keith Brooking.

That's not to say Reeves would have gotten the same results as the 43-year-old Mora. The new coach is a generation younger and clearly seems to have a better connection with the players.

"I think he's done a tremendous job," Reeves said. "The key to being a good head coach is getting a good feel on the pulse of your football team. He's done that well. He doesn't dwell on negative things."

Reeves didn't attend any games at the Georgia Dome this season, saying it's easier to see on television. And it's clear he didn't leave on the best of terms with Blank, who took over the franchise in 2002.

While Reeves regrets that he couldn't leave on his own terms, he has no reason to be angry. Of the job he left in Atlanta, "For at least a few more days, he's the only coach to take this franchise to a Super Bowl. And he should always be remembered as the coach who got No. 7 into a Super Bowl."

Reeves said he'll be back in town leaving this franchise in better shape than when he took over, Reeves said. "I feel certain they will soon have a Super Bowl parade down Peachtree Street. Very soon."

Belichick: Pats coach regarded as master strategist

BELICHICK, FROM BACK PAGE

Manning's longest completion game was just 15 yards and he failed to throw a touchdown pass for the first time in his 16 complete games this season.

What happens. "I think the person you have to ask is Belichick," Colts tight end Marcus Pollard said. "What they did [Sunday] was different from what teams have been able to do against us all season."

Patriots linebacker Mike Vrabel was part of the defense that carried out Belichick's orders.

"We had a great plan, an unbelievable plan. Our coaches got together and came up with some good stuff," Vrabel said.

Belichick has his coaches been doing this all season.

Curtis Martin of the New York Jets led the NFL in rushing in two games against the Patriots this season, both losses, he totaled only 103 yards on 33 carries with no touchdowns. His longest run covered 27 yards.

"Belichick is like the Bobby Fischer of football," the running back said. "When you give that guy time to plan for your opponent, he's going to dissect you. He's going to take your

whole strategy apart. And no matter what you do, he has an answer for it. That's why Pittsburgh is going to have a hard time."

If the Patriots win, Belichick will tie for the best playoff record among head coaches who have been in at least six games at 9-1.

The other nine — Vince Lombardi, who won the first two Super Bowls with Green Bay.

But Belichick shrugs off all the accolades, preferring to scrutinize game film and ponder Xs and Os.

He even said Monday that his team has to "kind of start from scratch" in preparing for Pittsburgh because it spent last week and part of the previous week studying the Colts.

Pittsburgh has a much different offensive style than Indianapolis — power running instead of quick passing — but he does know the Steelers all too well from a 34-20 loss in Pittsburgh on Oct. 31.

If he loses to them again, he can't imagine fans heaping praise

on him for being a brilliant tactician who designs just the right plays or a wise teacher who motivates his players to stay hungry.

"We've just got to go back to work, have a good week of preparation, get as mentally and physically prepared as we possibly can to play the best team in the AFC in their place," he said.

"I'm sure none of those things will be said next week."

The Patriots' loss to Pittsburgh ended their 21-game winning streak. Their only other loss was by one point in Miami.

Still, Belichick shares the blame for the collapse against the Steelers in which the Patriots trailed 21-3 after one quarter, rushed for a grand total of 5 yards and held the ball for only 7:0.

Roethlisberger threw for two touchdowns in the first quarter and completed 18 of 24 passes.

So how could a team that stopped Manning, who got an NFL record with 49 touchdown passes, crumble against a rookie

quarterback? "We didn't do hardly anything well," Belichick said.

"Obviously, I did a terrible job. You get beat 34-13 or whatever it was, you don't feel very good about your job."

It was a rare failure for one of the greatest defensive coaches of the past two decades whose considerable offensive skills can be overshadowed.

He was defensive coordinator for the New York Giants when they won the Super Bowls in the 1986 and 1990 seasons. He also worked with the Patriots' quarterbacks in 2001 — Tom Brady's first season as a starter after quarterback coach Dick Reeb died that August. Belichick won his third NFL title that year.

He won another last season and must beat Pittsburgh for a chance at a fifth championship.

So by the time his players return to practice on Wednesday, the coaching wizard will have devised the plan he thinks will get them to their third Super Bowl in four years.

"We're really starting a little bit further behind than we normally are" in preparations, he said, but that's just the way it is this time of year so we'll work through it."

[[Patriots coach
Bill Belichick
is like the
Bobby Fischer
of football]]

Curtis Martin

New York Jets running back



Pittsburgh's Jeff Reed, left, has made 19 consecutive field-goal attempts, a team record, and has made 30 of 35 attempts this season. Last season, Reed was successful on only 23 of 32 field-goal tries.

Steelers' kicking game is now on solid footing

By ALAN ROBINSON
The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — This might have been viewed as the biggest mismatch between the Steelers and Patriots when the season started: kickers Jeff Reed of Pittsburgh vs. Adam Vinatieri of New England.

Now, if Sunday's AFC championship game comes down to a field goal — just as Pittsburgh's divisional playoff game against the Jets did — the Steelers don't think New England has a distinct advantage.

Reed has made 19 consecutive field-goal attempts, tying Gary Anderson's team record, and has missed only once since the first half of the season. He's not getting all chip shots, either; he is eight of 11 from 40 yards and beyond and 2-for-2 from 50 yards-plus this season.

The former North Carolina kicker hasn't won two Super Bowls in three seasons with field goals, as Vinatieri has done, but he's given the Steelers their most consistent kicker since Anderson starred for them from 1982-94.

Appropriately enough for the son of former Wichita State basketball player Morris Reed, Jeff Reed has rebounded from some difficult times to become a reliable and, often, clutch kicker. He has won three games with last-minute or last-play field goals this season, including the 20-17 overtime playoff win Saturday against the Jets.

"He's done a terrific job," running back Jerome Bettis said. "When he puts that 3.0 on, you know this guy's coming to play. When you have a dependable kicker, it's priceless."

Just ask the Jets, who would be playing New England instead of Pittsburgh if kicker Doug Brien hadn't missed potential game-winning field goal tries of 47 and 43 yards in the final two minutes of regulation.

Reed, signed following an unusual midseason tryout camp in 2002, was an upgrade over the kicker he replaced (Todd Peterson) but displayed troubling signs of inconsistency last season. He was 23 of 32, compared with 30 of 35 this season, and five in nine during December 2003.

And see if this scenario sounds familiar, if only in reverse: the Jets beat the Steelers 6-0 last season because Brien made two field goal tries and Reed was 0-for-2.

Just like the Steelers, who improved from 6-10 in 2003 to 15-1 during the regular season, Reed has significantly upgraded his play.

"The guys are moving the ball, blocking for me and Mike and (holder) Chris (Gardocki) are doing a great job," Reed said. "I know every ball's going to be there, so it's in my court. It's just a matter of being consistent like I know I can be."

Kickers often get noticed only when they miss, yet coach Bill Cowher held up Reed as an example to his teammates during a recent team meeting. Cowher's message: Get this guy in position, and he'll make the big kick for you.

Still, Reed acknowledges being nervous before his game-winning 33-yarder against the Jets.

"I think I stopped shaking (Sunday)," Reed said. "It was real emotional."

Going against Vinatieri is a challenge because Reed considers the All-Pro kicker the best in the sport. Vinatieri was 2-for-2 during New England's 20-3 rout of the Colts on Sunday after going 31 of 33 during the regular season.

"As far as one-on-one, I'm going against the best," Reed said. "He's proven himself. Once again, he's going to the Pro Bowl. He's a great kicker and a great role model for me. I want to be where he is someday, and I'm striving to be where he is."

On Sunday, he will be.

Home-field advantage seems to be more myth than reality

By CHICO HARLAN
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

PITTSBURGH — Long ago, three words fused into one phrase — Home-Field Advantage. — and when somebody dropped that phrase into the cauldron of sports debate, it became a term that warped under the pressure of myth and fact. It grew from a statistical trend into a built-in sporting phenomenon. It developed, much a roll-of-the-tongue acceptance, who even bothered to notice that home teams in the NFL playoffs have lost six of the past 14 league championship games?

Home-field advantage became a duty. Strive for it. Earn it. Protect it.

"From the time you start with football," Steelers cornerback Chad Scott said recently, "everybody talks about winning at home. That's part of the football mentality."

At its foundation, home-field advantage is instinctive, a primal desire to protect one's surrounding. For athletes, the desire rings so true that the phrase has rearranged itself into a pop-culture omnipresence. In a commercial for sporting gear company Under Armour, a football player screams, with animalistic urgency, "We must protect this house!" A recent VISA television ad features several New England Patriots barking about their desire to prevent opponents from winning at home — where, incidentally, the Patriots have won 20 consecutive games after Sunday's 20-3 thumping of the Indianapolis Colts.

To heck with the facts and myths of home-field advantage — we'll get to that later. Home field, more than anything, is perpetuated by pride. Right now, the Steelers find themselves on a walk-off to the Super Bowl. They need only one more victory — Sunday at Heinz Field against those same Patriots — to get there.

"And when you come to Heinz Field," running back Jerome Bettis said, "you're not going to leave with a win."

The AFC's No. 1 seed, the Steelers have yet to lose at Heinz Field this season.

But no guarantees, remember. For all one can say to evidence the truth of home-field advantage — one example: home playoff games. Since 1970, have won 70 percent of their games — the Steelers have done much in the past decade to raise doubts. On Jan. 15, 1995, the Steelers lost at Three Rivers Stadium in the AFC championship to the underdog Chargers. Three years later, they lost in similar fashion to the Denver Broncos. By the time New England shocked the Steelers at Heinz Field in January 2002, such losses had become a trend, a painful, embarrassing trend.

Advantage or not, failing to protect one's home field creates discord in the whole football cosmos. Strive, earn, protect ... strive, earn, protect — that's what players have trained themselves to expect.

"Nah, man," Scott said, when asked about Steelers' playoff struggles at home.

Interview over. He walked away, unwilling to talk.

The home team, in Vegas, generally receives a three-point edge in the point spread. If, for instance, the Steelers and Patriots were judged as equals when playing at a neutral site, the Steelers would be favored by three points in a game played at Heinz Field; New England would be favored by three in a game played at Gillette Stadium. By a prognosticator's eye, a home stadium is good for a field goal.

But more accurately, home field, sandwiched between the gap of myth and fact, defies any general rule. By some accounts, home-field advantage is the push an NFL team needs to reach the Super Bowl.

"It was a big advantage for us," said Franco Harris, a Steelers with four championship rings. "In-playoff games, there's an energy and emotion in the stands that can play a lot into what happens on the field."

By other accounts, home field is an element so often assumed to be advantageous, people forget about the pitfalls. Said former Steelers coach Chuck Noll: "There are some downsides to being at home, too — people asking you for tickets, family concerns. A lot of outside distractions."

Fact is, home teams win NFL playoff games at a remarkably stable rate. In each of the past four decades, home teams have won between 67 and 73 percent of their games. Despite that, many perceive that the advantage of home field has dissipated in the past decade. New stadiums, with their sterile ambience, tend to suffocate the loudest fans. Player movement through free agency melts away each team's identity. And most important, perhaps, a few statistical trends are starting to indicate that playing at home means less than ever.

Since the NFL created its current, 12-team playoff format in 1990, only half of all 1 seeds (14 of 28) have advanced to the Super Bowl. Teams playing at home lost just four conference championships in the 1980s; home teams have lost four times in four years since 2000. Two weeks ago, three of four road teams won their playoff games.

"I would not say the league is inclined to be a place where home field doesn't mean anything," Steelers President Art Rooney II said. "The league has always understood that there should be a home-field advantage, but it's just a fact of life now that there is more parity than ever."

Even so, playing at home comes packaged with natural benefits. The top two playoff seeds in each conference receive an extra off week, perfect for healing injured players. Home teams depend on crowd noise to stunt opposing offenses. Teams spend their whole season, as the Steelers did in 2004, aiming for those rewards.

Then, once you earn all that, you just hope it makes a difference.



Fans at Pittsburgh's Heinz Field get excited before Saturday's playoff game against the Jets. The Steelers have lost two straight and three of the past four times they have been in the AFC title game — all of which have been at home.

AP

Tennis scoreboard

Australian Open

Thursday
At Melbourne Park
Australian
Purse: \$14.5 million (Grand Slam)
Surface: Hard-outdoor
Singles

Men

Second Round
 Philipp Kohlschreiber, Germany, def. Nicolas Pietrangeli (18), Chile, 6-3, 2-0 retired.
 Bobby Reynolds, United States, def. Andrei Pavel (17), Romania, 7-6 (5), 6-2, 6-2.
 Guillermo Canas (12), Argentina, def. Fernando Verdasco, Spain, 3-6, 7-6, 6-3, 6-2.
 Radek Stepanek, Czech Republic, def. Jan Herych, Czech Republic, 7-6 (5), 6-1, 1-6, 6-7 (2), 6-0.
 Fernando Gonzalez (23), Chile, def. Igor Andreev, Russia, 7-5, 6-2, 6-3.
 Rafael Nadal, Spain, def. Mikhail Yuzhny (3), Russia, 6-1, 4-6, 7-5, 6-3.
 Juan Ignacio Chela (25), Argentina, def. Gregory Carraz, France, 7-6 (7), 6-2, 7-6 (3).
 Jean-Rene Liand, France, def. Sebastian Grosjean (14), France, 1-6, 6-3, 6-4, 6-3.
 Jurgen Melzer (32), Austria, def. Nathan Healy, Australia, 6-2, 7-6 (3), 6-3.
 Guillermo Coria (8), Argentina, def. Ricardo Mello, Brazil, 6-4, 6-7 (3), 6-4, 6-3.
 Nikolay Davydenko (8), Russia, def. Christophe Rochus, Belgium, 6-4, 6-4, 6-2.
 David Nalbandian (9), Argentina, def. Santiago Ventura, Spain, 6-4, 6-3, 2-6, 6-2.
 Tim Henman (7), Britain, def. Victor Hanesku, Romania, 6-2, 6-4, 6-3.
 Lleyton Hewitt (3), Australia, def. James Blake, United States, 4-6, 7-6 (3), 6-3, 6-3.
 Juan Carlos Ferrero (1), Spain, def. Mariano Zabala, Argentina, 6-2, 6-1, 6-2, 6-0.

Women

Second Round
 Lisa Raymond (25), United States, def. Klara Koukalova, Czech Republic, 6-4, 6-1.

Anastasia Myskina (3), Russia, def. Tzipi Orliker, Israel, 6-4, 6-2.
 Algal Spas, United States, def. Tatiana Golovin (20), France, 7-5, 6-2.
 Francesca Schiavone (11), Italy, def. Tatiana Perebrynka, Ukraine, 7-6, 6-3, 6-0.
 Michaela Pastikova, Czech Republic, 2-6, 6-2, 6-2.
 Daniela Hantuchova (26), Slovakia, def. Barbara Schett, Austria, 6-4, 6-0.
 Karolina Soren (13), Croatia, def. Tathiana Garbin, Italy, 7-6 (5), 7-6 (2).
 Anna Smashnova (7), Israel, def. Tamara Tanasugarn, Thailand, 6-2, 6-2.
 Nicole Pietrangeli, Czech Republic, def. Jelena Kostanic (11), Croatia, 6-2, 6-0.
 Venus Williams (8), United States, def. Peng Shuai, China, 6-1, 6-1.
 Tatiana Pietrangeli, def. Jelena Jankovic (12), Serbia-Montenegro, 3-6, 6-4, 6-2.
 Elena Dementieva (6), Russia, def. Anna Chakvetadze, Russia, 6-2, 6-1.
 Nathalie Dechy (19), France, def. Mashona Washington, United States, 6-7 (2), 7-6 (6), 6-0.
 Patty Schnyder (12), Switzerland, def. Michaela Krajcik, Czech Republic, 6-4, 6-3, 6-4.
 Elena Likhovtseva (18), Russia, def. Evie Dominikovic, Australia, 6-2, 6-3.
 Alicia Molik (10), Australia, def. Aiko Nakamura, Japan, 6-2, 6-4.

Doubles

Men

Jonas Bjorkman, Sweden, and Max Mirnyi (4), Belarus, def. Bohdan Ulirop, Ukraine, 6-2, 6-3, 6-4.
 Tomas Benet, Czech Republic, 7-6 (2), 6-1.
 Frank Labadie, Georgia, and Roger Wassen, Netherlands, def. Frankseth Kermec and Louis Friedl (11), Czech Republic, 7-6 (6), 6-3.
 Giorgio Galimberti and Filippo Volandri, Italy, def. Julian Knowle, Austria, and Peter Pala (14), Czech Republic, 6-4, 3-6, 7-5.
 Xavier Malisse and Olivier Rochus (12), Belgium, def. Yves Allegro, Switzerland, and Michael Kohlmann, Germany, 6-4, 6-3.

Women

Lee Hyung-kul, South Korea, and Jarkko Nieminen, Finland, def. Arnaud Clement and Paul-Henri Mathieu, France, 7-6 (4), 6-4.
 Cyril Suk and Pavel Vizek (9), Czech Republic, def. Seda Kadir and Sharon Nettie, Australia, 6-3, 6-3.
 Ashley Fisher, Australia, and Travis Parrott, United States, def. Jan-Michael Gambill and Michaela Hingis, United States, 6-2, 6-7 (3), 6-4.
 Karsten Braasch, Germany, and Jeff Coetzee, South Africa, def. Mario Anic and Ivan Ljubicic, Croatia, 6-4, 6-4.
 Julijana Lesnaya and Nicole Pietrangeli (15), Czech Republic, def. Agnieszka Radwanska and Albert Morin, Spain, 6-3, 6-4.
 Karol Beck, Slovakia, and Sange Sargsian, Armenia, def. Martin Damm, Czech Republic, and Jared Palmer (10), United States, 7-6 (8), 6-2, 6-3.
 Wayne Arthurs and Paul Hanley (8), Australia, def. Tomas Cibulka, Czech Republic, and Dominik Hrbaty, Slovakia, 6-2, 6-4.
 Roko Karanusic, Croatia, and Uros Vic, def. Rainer Schuetzler, Germany, and Mikhail Yuzhny, Russia, 7-6 (2), 6-1, 2 retired.
 Lu Yen-hua, Taiwan, and Takao Suzuki, Japan, def. Paul Baccanello and Raphael Lopez, Australia, 7-6 (2), 6-6, 6-3.
 Alex Calatrava and David Ferrer, Spain, def. Jaroslav Levinsky and David Slovic, Czech Republic, 6-2, 3-6, 6-3.
 Wesley Moodie, South Africa, and Nenad Zimonjic, Serbia-Montenegro, def. Feliciano Lopez and Fernando Verdasco, Spain, 6-4, 6-1.

Michael Llodra and Fabrice Santoro (6), France, def. Jose Acasuso, Argentina, and Flavio Saretta, Brazil, 6-2, 6-1.
 Bob and Mike Bryan (2), United States, def. Robby Ginepro and Vince Spadea, United States, 6-2, 6-1.
 Jordan Kerr, Australia, and Jim Thomas, United States, def. Jan Herych and Michael Tabara, Czech Republic, 2-6, 6-2, 6-2.

Women

First Round

Ruxandra Dragomir, Romania, and Maureen Drake, Canada, def. Olga Blizhova and Louise Prosveta, Czech Republic, 6-4, 6-3.
 Kuznetsov Medina Garrigues, Spain, and Dinara Safina, Russia, def. Nuria Llagostera Vives, Spain, and Galina Voskosenko, Russia, 6-3, 6-4.
 Brynne Stewart and Samantha Stosur, Australia, def. Hsieh Su-wei, Taiwan, and Svetlana Kuznetsov, Russia, 6-3, 6-3.
 Yulia Beygelzimer, Ukraine, and Jeff Senechal, Turkey, 7-6 (2) and Zheng Jie (12), China, 7-6 (5), 6-4.
 Maria Bartoli, France, and Anna-Lena Friedl, Austria, 6-2, 6-1.
 Lina Krasnoroutskaya, Russia, 6-2, 6-1.
 Chung Ching-ling, Taiwan, and Rika Fujiwara, Japan, 6-2, 6-1.
 Maria Kuznetsov, def. Maria Kirilenko and Lina Krasnoroutskaya, Russia, 6-2, 6-1.
 Chung Ching-ling, Taiwan, and Rika Fujiwara, Japan, 6-2, 6-1.
 Gisela Dulko, Argentina, and Maria Vento-Kabchi (11), Venezuela, def. Els Callens, Belgium, and Lisa McNeish, Australia, 7-6 (3), 6-3.
 Anastasia Myskina and Vera Zvonareva (7), Russia, def. Stephanie Cohen-Alter, Belgium, and Lisa McNeish, Australia, 7-6 (3), 6-3.
 Jennifer Russell, United States, and Mara Santangelo, Italy, def. Alina Sidjona, Romania, and Tathiana Garbin, Italy, 6-4, 5-7, 6-2.
 Daniela Hantuchova, Slovakia, and Marianna Navratilova, United States, def. Maria Fernanda Alvarez, Brazil, and Vanessa Henke, Germany, 6-1, 6-3.
 Todd Maggrave and Christine Wheeler, Australia, def. Zofia Kubacka and Petra Mandula, Hungary, 6-2, 6-3, 6-1.

No new proposals from NHL 'dialogue'

BY IRA PODELL

The Associated Press

A twist in the NHL labor talks seems to have worked — at least for now.

With Commissioner Gary Bettman and union chief Bob Goodenow out of the picture Wednesday, a group of six men got down to talking.

After several hours in a lounge at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport, they decided that discussions should continue.

The bid to jump-start NHL labor negotiations has done just that, spawning a second round of talks in an effort to save the hockey season. Union president Trevor Linden and NHL board of directors chairman Harley Hotchkiss spoke Wednesday and the sides agreed to meet again Thursday, this time in Toronto.

"We engaged in good dialogue," Linden said.

The session lasted about five hours, including several breaks so each three-man negotiating group could huddle. It was just the third time the league and players' association have met face-to-face talks since the lock-out was imposed Sept. 15.

More than half of the regular season has been wiped out so far.

NHL chief legal officer Bill Daly joined Hotchkiss, who is a part-owner of the Calgary Flames, and outside counsel Bob Bettman in representing the NHL. Linden, NHLPA senior director Ted Saska, and outside counsel John McCambridge were there for the players.

"The parties had a good, candid dialogue," Daly said.

The participants are likely to be the same for the second day of discussions, except for Hotchkiss who will be attending the funeral of J.R. (Bud) McCaig, another member of the Flames' ownership group who died last week. Saska will take part in the meeting, despite the death of his mother Wednesday.

Bettman and Goodenow, who have shouldered much of the blame for the lockout lasting so long, are expected to sit out again Thursday. At this point, it doesn't appear that either side is prepared to break the ice and put forth a new proposal.

Linden reached out to the owners and invited Hotchkiss to talk.

The Vancouver Canucks center hoped that by holding general discussions without the two leaders, some of the acrimony could be removed from the negotiating process.

"We credit Trevor Linden's initiative in requesting this session, which was informal, open and professional and which resulted in a constructive exchange of viewpoints," Hotchkiss said.

If the next round of talks doesn't move the sides to a settlement, the season probably would be lost. That would mean the Stanley Cup would not be awarded for the first time since 1919.

The Exchange New Car Sales Early-Order Advantage Continues...

The SOONER you place your order on selected Ford 2005 models, the BIGGER your rebate.

Mercury Montego

Ford F-250/350*

Ford Ranger



2005 FORD REBATE CHART			
MODEL	1/14 - 1/28/05	1/29 - 2/11/05	02/12 - 2/28/05
Montego	\$2,500	\$2,250	\$2,000
Ford F-250/350*	\$2,750	\$2,500	\$2,250
Ranger	\$2,750	\$2,500	\$2,250

These Exchange New Car Sales rebates are a Military Advantage Program EXCLUSIVE!

Combined with LOW INTRODUCTORY FACTORY PRICING...

NOW IS THE TIME TO BUY!

Visit your on-base Exchange New Car Sales location, www.encs.com or e-mail us at exch@militarycars.com



*This includes New Car Rebate Model and specifications are for the use of our knowledge current as of the date of publication. They are subject to change only by the manufacturer and the laws or regulations of any federal, state or local government agency. Vehicles shown are for illustrative use only. Dealer's actual equipment of additional cost. All programs and guarantees are subject to terms and conditions. See your representative for details. Banner/Crosser Corporation, Ford and General Motors are authorized distributors of AAPES and EXCHANGE New Car Sales in an authorized distributor to sell and distribute Corporate Ford, General Motors, Honda and Toyota Division vehicles. This advertisement does not express any rights endorsement by AAPES, EXCHANGE, the U.S. Government and is not approved by them. © 2005

SPORTS



Ex-coach Reeves enjoys watching success of team he helped put together, Page 36

Can't win big one?

Cowher gets another crack at beating Patriots' coach, leading Steelers to title

BY ALAN ROBINSON
The Associated Press

For someone saddled with the reputation of not winning the big one, Bill Cowher certainly coaches in a lot of big games. That's why there's extra incentive in Sunday's AFC championship game for one of the most successful coaches to never win a Super Bowl: The man widely considered pro football's best coach is on the opposing sideline.

Cowher, the Steelers' coach since 1992, has won more regular season games and division titles than the Patriots' Bill Belichick — and just as many playoff games. When the two went head-to-head in the same division for four seasons from 1992-95, Cowher won three division titles to Belichick's none.

Amid the one-sided comparisons is the singular statistic that explains why Belichick is the resident wizard among NFL coaches, and Cowher is considered to be merely among the elite.

Super Bowls won: Belichick 2, Cowher 0.

And it's not just winning football's biggest game that's been the problem — Cowher is 0-1 in the Super Bowl — it's getting there.

This is the fifth time since 1995 the Steelers have staged the AFC title game, yet they have won only once and were upset three times as a favorite.

Can't win the big one? Seems the problem has been more like can't-win-the-one-before-the-big-one.

"I want to win a championship," Cowher said, resolutely, aware his career will seem incomplete unless he raises the Lombardi Trophy. "It has been a void that has been there."

Void? It's been a Grand Canyon-sized crater, especially because he is one of only two Steelers coaches in 36 seasons, yet is clearly the least accomplished. Chuck Noll might have won only two playoff games in his final 12 seasons, but he is still the only coach to win four Super Bowls.

Cowher, talking Tuesday, didn't try to rationalize the Steelers' AFC title game upset losses to San Diego (January 1995), Denver (1998) or New England (2002).

"I think we have been prepared to play every game," he said. "When you go into the playoffs, you are playing quality teams and you can't turn the ball over and squander scoring opportunities. Those things have a way of staring you in the face at the end of a football game."

Sounds like a simplistic answer for a complex man — one who trails only Joe Gibbs, Bill Parcells and Mike Holmgren in playoff victories among active coaches, yet is the only one of that group without a Super Bowl title.

SEE COWHER ON PAGE 36

PITTSBURGH

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP

AP



New England coach Bill Belichick has led the Patriots to Super Bowl victories in two of the past three years, but hasn't yet come up with a plan to stop Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger.

Pittsburgh one more test for Belichick

BY HOWARD ULMAN
The Associated Press

FOXBORO, Mass. — The coaching genius knows how quickly his reputation can be tarnished.

Another loss to the Steelers and Bill Belichick could go from the mastermind who baffled Peyton Manning to the bungler who still can't beat Ben Roethlisberger.

"It's a nice compliment" that some people consider him one of the top coaches in NFL history, the New England coach said Monday.

"I don't think it really means much this week. I don't think anybody cares about that. I'm sure Pittsburgh doesn't care."

Belichick already has won two Super Bowls in three years and led the Patriots to consecutive 14-2 seasons. On Sunday, his reputation grew in a 20-3 playoff victory over the high-scoring Indianapolis Colts and MVP Manning that put New England in Sunday's AFC championship game in Pittsburgh.

SEE BELICHICK ON PAGE 36

Suns move to top of standings as Suns' slide continues; LeBron becomes youngest to record NBA triple-double

Page 34



Undefeated No. 4 Duke gives upstart Miami taste of life at top of ACC

Page 33



Hewitt pushed to four sets by Blake before moving on in Australian Open

Page 38

